

Foreign ministers rebuff Luxembourg

UK wins allies in EC battle to slow reforms

By GEORGE BROCK IN LUXEMBOURG AND NICHOLAS WOOD

AN ATTEMPT by the Luxembourg government to force the pace of this week's European Community summit on political and monetary union was rebuffed at a meeting of the 12 foreign ministers yesterday.

Several countries raised objections to the move, making it clear that Britain was not isolated in its stand. Jacques Poos, the Luxembourg foreign minister and chairman of yesterday's meeting, said that the summit of EC leaders could take definite decisions on creating a common foreign policy and granting extra powers to the European Parliament. He said that the summit should work towards "concrete results" and give "precise guidelines" to the treaty draftsmen.

A number of countries, including Germany, agreed with Britain, however, that the Luxembourg summit should be no more than "stock taking". Hans-Dietrich Genscher, the German foreign minister, told the meeting that it was too soon for decisions to

ANOTHER PAGE

Tory wounds, page 6  
Delors's image, page 6  
Major's strategy, page 7  
Public support, page 7  
Ivor Crewe, page 14

be taken on individual elements of the negotiations and the summit should not try to pre-empt decisions due to be taken at the December summit in Maastricht.

In addition, Britain, Portugal, Ireland and Denmark were reported to have rejected proposals that EC foreign policy should be decided by a majority, rather than a unanimous vote, and for the European parliament to be given the power to veto community laws.

One Irish official said: "We object to the idea that Britain is isolated. We all have our individual problems with the treaty text." However, Anne Marie Lizin, the Belgian European affairs minister, said yesterday: "The British government would be happy if we took the knife away from its throat."

Tristan Garel-Jones, the Foreign Office minister of state, reiterated British objections to the "federal goal" that appears in the present draft of the treaty, but he was told by Mr Genscher that federalism meant devolution of power to the lowest practical level of government and not the creation of a centralised super-state.

However, Mr Garel-Jones said: "You can't run away from the fact that in Britain the word federal means a centralised structure."

He said after the meeting that the government is "absolutely confident" that it will be able to sign a new EC treaty at the end of this year, in spite of the differences between Britain and its partners. "A good treaty for Britain and a personal triumph for John Major". Given the long list of disagreements over central political issues, which include proposals for a united defence policy, his optimism sounded remarkable.

The prime minister will still come to Luxembourg under

powerful pressure to commit Britain to closer political integration. He will begin an intensive round of diplomatic activity today to try to stave off an ambush on political union at the summit. Mr Major will meet President Mitterrand in Dunkirk today and Jacques Santer, the Luxembourg prime minister, in London tomorrow. He will also, according to his aides, telephone other European leaders throughout the week to try to win their support.

With Luxembourg keen to mark the end of its presidency with substantial progress on political union, Mr Major's meeting with Mr Santer is likely to prove pivotal. Downing Street sources said last night that there were a "number of difficult areas" opening up on political union and the European summit was unlikely to prove a "cakewalk".

The scale of the task facing Mr Major overshadowed even the internal Tory rift over Europe. The danger for him, with the Commons due to debate the EC on Wednesday and with an interview with Margaret Thatcher due to be shown on Sky News that evening, is that one false diplomatic move could spark off a renewed bout of politically damaging internal feuding.

The exact nature of this week's debates will become clear when Mr Santer writes to his EC counterparts to confirm the summit agenda today. Mitterrand will meet Helmut Kohl, the German chancellor, in Paris tomorrow and they may issue a joint declaration on the future of the community that would raise the stakes at this week's summit.

The EC's six Christian Democrat leaders - of Germany, Italy, Luxembourg, Belgium, Greece and The Netherlands - met at the weekend and called for the completion of a treaty that would create "European union" with a more powerful European parliament by the end of the year. The 12 EC foreign ministers agreed that a new treaty should be signed at the Dutch summit in December.



Bathing time in the wet season: two girls dressed for summer paddle through the flooded streets of Plymouth

Floods stop play in record June rainfall

By RAY CLANCY

SOME of the worst summer rain for years flooded many parts of south-west England yesterday, making June one of the coldest and wettest since 1987. Weather forecasters predicted more rain today.

In a holiday month when many Britons expect to be at play, almost two inches of rain fell in parts of Devon and Cornwall and the River Avon was close to flooding at several points. A host of minor roads were affected by surface water.

The National Rivers Authority issued flood warnings and farmers were advised to move their livestock away from rivers and fields where flooding was likely.

In Torquay, part of the English Riviera where holidaymakers are usually sunning themselves at this time of the year, shops were flooded and vehicles were abandoned.

The London weather centre said that heavy rain would continue for much of today. "It has been a miserable summer so far and temperatures are well below average," a spokesman said. Temperatures averaged 12C (54F), making June one of the coldest and wettest in recent years. Elsewhere in Europe holiday-makers were basking in sunshine.

The rain prevented any play yesterday in the second Test between England and the West Indies at Lord's Cricket Ground and the game is expected to be a draw.

The spirits of tennis enthusiasts were not dampened, however, and queues formed by 9am outside the

All England Lawn Tennis and Croquet Club for the Wimbledon championships, which start today. Tents were erected and people prepared to camp out all night.

One organisation taking a more optimistic view of the weather prospects is the RSPCA. Today it launches a campaign urging the public, especially Wimbledon watchers, not to leave their dogs locked in cars in stifling heat.

Wimbledon queue, page 2

TODAY IN THE TIMES

LIFESTYLE

Eileen Carey, wife of the Archbishop of Canterbury, and other clergy spouses discuss their mixed blessings Page 12

FILM

Kevin Costner is not the first star to go from cheers to jeers on screen. Geoff Brown asks what makes a flop Page 13

SPORT

Stefan Edberg begins his defence of the men's singles title at Wimbledon today. Our guide to the tournament is on Pages 32, 33 and 36

INSIDE

French strike hits airlines

A strike by French air traffic controllers threatens to disrupt travel today. The strike was due to start at 5.30 this morning and run until 8.45 tonight. BA is to operate only two of its ten scheduled round trips to Paris. Page 2

Cambodia truce

All the factions involved in Cambodia's 12-year civil war have accepted a call for a lasting truce. An unconditional and unlimited ceasefire will come into operation today. Page 11

Mazda victory

Johnny Herbert, the British driver, was in the Mazda team that won the Le Mans 24-hour race in a surprising finish yesterday. Page 36

INDEX

Arts	13, 16
Births, marriages, deaths	16, 17
Business	21-26
Classified	17, 27-29
Court & social	16
Crosswords	17, 20
Degree results	24
Education	28, 29
Law Report	27
Leading articles	15
Letters	12
Life and Times	12
Obituaries	16
Sport	30-36
TV & radio	19
Weather	20

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Rail union scraps strike vote plan

By DAVID YOUNG

THE train drivers' union Aslef has abandoned plans to call a ballot seeking approval for industrial action over job losses and cutbacks in investment by British Rail.

A special executive meeting of the union yesterday discussed demands for its annual delegate conference to call for industrial action in protest at the BR plans. However, the executive, after taking legal advice and hearing reports from British Rail and district officials of the union, decided that "a ballot would not be appropriate in the present circumstances".

The result will be welcomed by British Rail and the

government, which had feared that Aslef could have won backing for a series of disruptive one-day strikes over the summer.

Derrick Fullick, union general secretary, said: "We will none the less continue to campaign in the strongest terms against the hiving off of profitable BR services into new businesses - a strategy aimed at preparing the railways for privatisation."

"Just because the law ties our hands over industrial action does not change the inequities of what is taking place."

French air strike, page 2

Five years to cap oil wells, Adair says

From CHRISTOPHER WALKER IN ALABAMA, KUWAIT

FIREFIGHTERS will take five years to cap the 600 oil wells still burning or gushing in Kuwait, Red Adair, the world's most experienced oil troubleshooter, said yesterday.

The Texan's forecast - four times as long as the Kuwaiti government's estimate - is a blow to the emirate's hopes of swift recovery.

Western diplomatic sources fear that any lengthy delay in dousing the fires and reducing the devastating pollution they are causing will further slow the rate at which Kuwaitis are willing to return.

Mr Adair's prediction, made after he returned soaked in oil from a battle with the 171st of the dynamited wells to be dealt with, was in

Continued on page 20, col 4



Long job: Red Adair leading his team yesterday

Moscow to be offered IMF associate status

By MICHAEL BINYON, DIPLOMATIC EDITOR

FINANCE ministers from the Group of Seven industrialised countries agreed unanimously yesterday that the Soviet Union should be offered associate membership of the International Monetary Fund. But they made it clear that President Gorbachev cannot expect any big aid package when he attends the economic summit in London next month.

As expected, the ministers said little about the main substance of their discussions, which was the concern in Europe and Japan about the dollar's high exchange rate.

The ministers emphasised that any Western help to the Soviet Union was conditional on continuing Soviet reform. "Only the Soviet Union itself can bring about change and reform. Massive aid itself is not the answer," Norman Lamont, the Chancellor, said afterwards.

There was disagreement on whether Moscow should be allowed to borrow more from the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development. Its borrowing limit is set at 6 per cent, the same as its shareholding in the bank.

Nicholas Brady, the American treasury secretary, yesterday reiterated American opposition to any raising of the borrowing limit. But he admitted that other countries wanted to reconsider this. Mr Gorbachev will meet the president of the bank, Jacques Attali, during his visit to London after the G7 summit.

There was no mention in the brief communiqué of the Japanese objections to aid for the Soviet Union. It said only

that ministers "noted the economic situation in the Soviet Union and the need for sustained economic reform". They said success in this process was in the interests of the Soviet Union, East European countries and global economic growth.

The ministers appeared irritated that the various Soviet plans for reform in the Soviet Union appeared, as Mr Brady said, "to have taken on a life of their own". He said this was confusing and suggested that the Russians could not expect any of the plans to win automatic approval at next month's meeting with Mr Gorbachev. Mr Brady said all proposals would be looked at and distilled before any reaction could be given.

All ministers emphasised that the world trade negotiations under the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade would be a priority at the summit. "In light of the particularly difficult circumstances facing East European countries and the Soviet Union, consideration should be given to measures which would enhance the trade prospects of these countries."

The ministers expressed satisfaction over the general economic outlook, especially in America, where Mr Brady said recovery was well under way and inflation had fallen to 3 per cent. Mr Lamont, as host of the meeting, noted that growth was still strong in Japan and Germany and praised the G7's commitment to non-inflationary policies with firm monetary and fiscal management.

For the Germans, represented by Theo Waigel, the finance minister, yesterday marked the end of an era, for it was the last time Karl Otto Pöhl, the influential president of the Bundesbank for the past 10 years, attended a meeting of the G7, of which he was a founder member.

Leading article, page 15  
Letters, page 15  
Wary stance on dollar, page 21  
Economic view, page 23

Pretoria in peace move

THE South African government and anti-apartheid movements have taken the first step towards enforcing a code of conduct which they hope will end township violence and lead to resumed power-sharing talks (Our Foreign Staff writes).

Inkatha, the ANC and the government agreed in week-end talks to draft a peace plan by August.

Archbishop Trevor Huddleston returned to South Africa yesterday for the first time in 35 years.

Peace panel, page 11

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Carey calls for simultaneous Sunday services

By RUTH GLEDHILL

...according to Matthew, Mark, Luke, John and Fred.



THE Archbishop of Canterbury has called for church services to be held simultaneously each Sunday to try to halt a decline in attendances. Many would be led by lay people.

In a sermon delivered at the National Exhibition Centre in Birmingham, Dr George Carey said that overemphasis on communion services had in some places led to a decline in numbers attending church. In some rural areas, services had become too infrequent. The archbishop said: "We are calling this the Decade of Evangelism because the plain fact is that for over 150 years we have been bleeding to death. We must reverse the spiral of decline by putting our resources into patterns of growth."

Dr Carey was preaching at a service to celebrate 125 years of the revival of the office of reader, a lay person licensed to

preach, take services and help with pastoral work. Addressing nearly 9,000 readers and more than 60 bishops from 44 dioceses, including some in Europe, Dr Carey said that the idea for simultaneous Sunday services had come from the Bishop of Norwich, the Right Reverend Peter Nott. Dr Carey had dreamt of putting it into practice in his last diocese of Bath and Wells. A celebration of the eucharist or a "word" service would be held in every town and village at one time, such as 10am.

The archbishop conceded that it could not be achieved overnight but had no doubt that it could happen if tackled creatively by individual deaneries. Services where communion was not celebrated need not be trivial but could be occasions when teaching formed a significant part of the worship.

Dr Carey said: "Still today, too many think ministry is the territory only of

those ordained to the priesthood." Readers had to remember that they were lay people, he said. "Don't be tempted into being a sanctuary acolyte, or becoming a clerical stand-in."

A weakness of the church's ministry was that it had been seen as the preserve of a learned, academic elite, he said. Lay and ordained ministry could too often become ends in themselves. But readers could build bridges over "the enormous chasm in our so-called Christian country between Christian believers and habitual non-churchgoers".

The Bishop of Norwich came up with the idea of simultaneous services to provide continuity. His chaplain, the Rev Michael Slagg, said that the diocese had some groups of churches where there might be ten churches to one

Continued on page 20, col 6

Suiting the cloth, page 12

## Worlock attacks MPs over Liverpool

THE Archbishop of Liverpool accused MPs yesterday of treating the city like a "political punchbag" to secure success with the voters.

The Most Rev Derek Worlock said that politicians had failed to recognise the courage of Liverpool city council's leaders in trying to cut costs and set a legal budget. On BBC Radio 4's *Sunday programme*, the Roman Catholic archbishop accused them of using the city's troubles to blame the opposition, to say: "Look at that mess, that's what happens if the other party gets in power."

He said: "Stop treating it like a political punchbag in order to make sure that your party does well or the others do badly in the Walton by-election. Try and look beyond that. Here's a city that is trying to get its affairs straight."

Meanwhile, a decision is awaited on who will clear up the mountains of rubbish left at emergency dumps because of a work-to-rule by dustmen protesting at redundancies. The council has awarded the contract for the city's refuse collection service to a private firm, UK Waste Control.

The dustmen have until 10am today to start clearing the rubbish, but this weekend their union leaders rejected an offer from the council. That offer will, however, be put to the dustmen at a meeting this morning.

UK Waste Control, which is to take over the service from August 1, says that it can begin the clear-up tomorrow.

Militant threat, page 20

## French strike brings day of disruption for air travellers

By DAVID YOUNG

AIR travellers to France face severe disruption today because of a strike by French air traffic controllers. British Airways has advised people not to try to travel unless it is absolutely necessary.

All airlines will be hit by the strike which was due to start at 5.30 this morning and run until 8.45 tonight. BA has been told that it can operate only two of its ten scheduled round trips on the Heathrow-Paris route, one out of three between Heathrow and Nice and one of two between Heathrow and Lyon. There will be no BA services from Heathrow to Marseilles, Toulouse or Bordeaux. Birmingham and Manchester airports will be able to provide one one-way flight to Paris against a normal Monday pattern of 11 round trips.

Cross-channel services between Dover and Calais are still affected by a strike by the crews of the two French ships in the Sealink Stena fleet. The strike enters its third week today and means that eight of the 16 daily sailings operated by Sealink Stena have been cancelled. Sealink said yesterday that it had been able to switch passengers to its two British-crewed ships and on to other services.

The latest shot in the battle between ferry companies and

the Channel tunnel will be fired on Friday when the Sealink Stena Line ferry Stena Normandy leaves for Cherbourg just before midnight on a trip that will reinstate Southampton as a continental ferry port for the first time since the mid-1980s.

The service will try to attract motorists away from the tunnel, with the company suggesting that for most travellers the ferry crossing should be a key element of a holiday. The 17,000-tonne Stena Normandy has had a £1.5 million refit and will run twice a day in the peak season, with one round trip a day off-peak.

● Eurotunnel and a Franco-British government committee monitoring safety procedures for the Channel tunnel have agreed on stricter security measures for proposed lorry-carrying shuttles, sources said in France.

The agreement came after warnings from the committee that fire protection was insufficient on shuttle cars that had been ordered without its approval. The design provided safety arches to stop lorries falling, but the committee said they had to be closed. Eurotunnel said a design change would delay start-up operations. It was authorised to use half-open cars for truck transports.



Watery vigil: the Wimbledon faithful began queuing for tickets at 9 am yesterday, with the best prepared erecting tents for their overnight wait. However, ticket restrictions and more relaxed regulations by Merton council should give the genuine tennis enthusiast a better chance of seeing the championships, which begin today (John Goodbody writes).

The All-England Club will attempt to eradicate the black market by launching spot checks as spectators pass through the gates to verify that they originally purchased the tickets. The club has already won court cases stopping people from dealing in tickets from the public ballot.

Reports, pages 32, 33, 36

## North will benefit from council tax, report says

By DOUGLAS BROOM, LOCAL GOVERNMENT CORRESPONDENT

HOUSEHOLDS in north England will gain financially from the council tax at the expense of those in Conservative "flagship" boroughs in the South, according to figures to be published today.

An analysis of government predictions of council tax levels by the Labour-controlled Association of Metropolitan Authorities, suggests that the average council tax bill in London will be £78 per household higher than under

the poll tax. At the same time households living in Metropolitan districts in the North and the Midlands will be £82 a year better off as the result of the change from the community charge in 1993.

Among the most affected will be people living in the Conservative-controlled London boroughs of Wandsworth and Westminster which have consistently set the lowest poll tax figures in England.

In Wandsworth, where the budget reduction of £140 a head in the poll tax cancelled out the £136 charge, the average council tax bill would be £464.16 for a two-person household. In Westminster where the post-budget poll tax is £36 a head, the average council tax would be £536.90, one of the highest in England according to the figures.

The reversal of fortune is partly explained because the figures assume that councils

will spend at the target level set by the government when the tax is introduced. In practice, Wandsworth and Westminster have been able to set low community charges by reducing spending to well below government target figures.

However, the association insisted that its comparisons were valid because the new system for distributing government grants to councils may give such boroughs far less scope for reducing their local tax levels.

Under the new tax, couples living in Conservative Wandsworth would be on average £161 a year worse off, in Labour-controlled Hammersmith and Fulham they would lose £141.37 and in Camden £134.46. In contrast, two people living together in Tameside, Greater Manchester, would gain £127.64 and in Sandwell, West Midlands, £115.19 a year.

## Patten 'not mad' on election campaigns

By NICHOLAS WOOD, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

CHRIS PATTEN, the Conservative party chairman, yesterday revived doubts about his appetite for the more vulgar aspects of his job by saying that he was "not mad about election campaigns".

Mr Patten, who enjoys a reputation as one of his party's foremost intellectuals, has been privately criticised by some right-wingers for shunning the working-class Tory vote, which was crucial to Margaret Thatcher's hat-trick of election victories.

They have claimed that he is more interested in securing the good opinion of middle-class voters of a liberal outlook than in appealing to the self-interest of less enlightened potential supporters.

Some Conservative MPs have suggested that Norman Tebbit, the former Tory chairman, might be brought back to Central Office in a supporting role to give its campaigning a more tabloid flavour.

In an interview on Channel 4's *Pursuit of Power*, Mr Patten risked giving ammunition to his critics by confessing to a certain distaste for the baser political arts. He said: "I am not mad about

election campaigns. There is a sort of exotic preposterousness about a lot of an election, the way arguments are made ever cruder.

"One interesting question which we all have to ask ourselves is how much election campaigns matter. There are quite a lot of psephologists who would offer interesting thoughts on that."

Many of Mr Patten's cabinet colleagues and quite a few Labour frontbenchers probably share his concern about the brutalising nature of the hustings, but few would risk saying so publicly.

● The Conservatives are guilty of errors and untruths about the economy, Labour said yesterday in a counter-attack on Tory claims that its spending plans would add up to 15p to basic income tax.

John Smith, the shadow Chancellor, said that the disregard for the truth in last week's assault on the opposition policies was symptomatic of a lack of honesty in the government's claims about its economic record.

Ronald Butt, page 14  
Leading article, page 15

## NUM sues Lightman over book

The barrister who investigated the finances of the National Union of Mineworkers is being sued for alleged breach of confidence after publishing his report in a paperback book.

The union commissioned Gavin Lightman, QC, to conduct an enquiry into the handling of its affairs during and after the 1984/5 miners strike in the light of newspaper allegations of irregularities. The paperback was published after he presented his report to the NUM in July last year.

An NUM representative confirmed yesterday that writs had been served on Mr Lightman and on Penguin Books. The firm and Mr Lightman have 28 days to file a defence.

## No to Aids offer

Haemophiliacs in the Irish Republic infected with the Aids virus have turned down government compensation of £12.5 million (£6.3 million). They decided at the weekend to ask for £12.5 million (£11 million). Dr Rory O'Hanlon, the health minister, made the offer after the 84 victims started a legal battle for compensation. Nineteen more infected from blood products have died.

## Transplant poll

Six out of ten people questioned in a poll think that vital organs should be automatically removed for transplants after a person has died unless the person had stated beforehand that they did not approve. The nationwide Gallup poll of 973 adults, commissioned by the British Kidney Patient Association, showed that most of those polled would support such a new approach to organ donation.

## Hippies meet

Hampshire police reported only a handful of arrests yesterday among 2,500 hippies who converged on Rats Lodge, near Andover, for the summer solstice. Sir David Mitchell, Tory MP for North West Hampshire, called for a report from the chief constable into whether new powers were needed after complaints from residents about noise.

Below: The Times Crossword  
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# Profits sink as shoppers steer clear of Chelsea Harbour



Zadmehr: a shopowner in search of customers

ARMS folded in the doorway of her lingerie boutique, Marie-Claude Zadmehr vainly scans the horizon for potential customers. There are none. The only human life in view is two commissionaires, a sweeper, and two young men washing the leaves of the yucca plants. In three days she has sold just two items of underwear, and one of those was returned.

Ms Zadmehr gestures round the echoing, empty marble halls of Chelsea Harbour, the much-vaunted development of apartments, marina, hotel and upmarket shops hugging the Thames and rubbing uneasy shoulders with the crumbling bulk of Lots Road power station. Something, she says, is badly

wrong; they are within five minutes of Cheyne Walk, amply populated by ladies with money in their wallets and time on their hands. Yet after three years the tenants of the shopping arcade are finding business bordering on the disastrous.

Recession has hit especially hard at Chelsea Harbour. Seventeen of the 39 shop units are empty. One restaurant has closed, two are for sale, and a fourth is in litigation with the developers over rent.

Almost the only thriving business appears to be Deals, the restaurant run by the royal partnership of Viscount Linley and Patrick Lichfield.

Ms Zadmehr says: "No one knows about us, and even if they

Business is far from booming for shops housed in the exclusive splendour of a recent development by the Thames. Alan Hamilton and Christopher Warman find out what has gone wrong at Chelsea Harbour

did there are not enough shops open. Any potential tenant is going to be put off by the emptiness; the developers need to get the shops occupied as quickly as possible." The tenants' request for a Hoppa bus service between Harvey Nichols, Sloane Square and Chelsea Harbour, which they say could dramatically improve their business, has been dismissed out of hand.

Such bad trading has led to an

increasingly acrimonious dispute between the shopkeepers and the developers, the mighty P & O and its construction subsidiary Bovis.

Roddy Hermon, who runs a branch of the French children's clothing store Petit Bateau, says that since the builders left the site, P & O has done virtually nothing to promote Chelsea Harbour, and appears to have abandoned it. "The tenants have suggested all manner of promotional ideas, but

they have all been ignored. It is almost as though the developers have walked away from it," Mr Hermon says.

When he put a notice in his shop window listing ten things that were wrong with Chelsea Harbour, he received a writ from P & O ordering him to take it down because it broke the terms of his lease. One of his main complaints is that P & O failed to get full planning consent for the site and is therefore obliged to close the road through the site at morning and evening rush hours, thereby deterring numerous potential customers.

P & O, for its part, says that the road closure is a condition of the planning agreement with the local authorities, and while it is "mindful" of the wishes of the retailers,

the company has no choice but to operate the barriers, adding that there is ample car parking for customers on the site.

The developers have also rejected allegations that they have made no effort to promote Chelsea Harbour, citing carol and jazz concerts, a ball and an exhibition as part of the London international boat show. All were subsidised by P & O and attracted large numbers of people.

Business, however, remains bad, and not only for the shopkeepers. The development's showpiece three-storey luxury penthouse at the top of the Chelsea tower is still for sale after a year on the market, in spite of a price reduction to £3.8 million. And in spite of having Michael Caine as a neighbour.

## Union membership loss under Tories reaches four million

By PHILIP BASSETT, INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

LEADERS of Britain's main trade unions will be told today that membership of unions affiliated to the TUC has fallen by a further 250,000, bringing the loss since the Conservatives came to power in 1979 to four million.

The latest falls are disclosed as the TUC protests to the government about its new proposed legislation on trade unions — which would further reduce membership.

Details of the latest losses will be presented today to the

TUC's finance and general purposes committee, and will go before the full TUC general council on Wednesday. The membership figure, down to 8.15 million, reflects the impact of the early part of the recession. It does not, however, take into account the sharp decline in employment since the start of the year as the recession has bitten harder, so it is likely that by the end of this year total TUC membership will have fallen to below eight million. The

two large unions outside the TUC, the Royal College of Nursing and the expelled EETPU electricians, have both managed to maintain stable numbers. RCN membership grew by 2,000 to 283,548, while the electricians fell by 761 to 366,650.

In contrast, a confidential TUC document prepared for today's meeting will show that membership of the TUC's largest union, the TGWU transport workers, has fallen by 3.7 per cent to 1,223,891. Membership of the GMB general union has risen by 13 per cent, mainly because of its merger with the 73,000-strong tailors' union.

For the second year running, the left-led MSF general technical union is claiming a stable membership at 653,000. MSF has, over the past decade, managed what many union leaders consider to be the remarkable feat of maintaining a claimed steady membership when sharp falls have affected virtually every other union. Among the TUC's biggest unions, the document shows that the construction union Ucat has lost most members. The 20 per cent drop was caused by defections to the EETPU and the GMB, and the removal of many "ghost" and duplicated members from its lists.

The fall in union membership will be accelerated if the government implements a range of proposed legislative changes, particularly a move to ballot employees on whether they want union subscriptions deducted automatically from their pay, known as "check-off". Other changes include making collective agreements legally enforceable, outlawing the TUC's Bridlington principles that govern inter-union relations, and altering unions' financial and merger regimes.

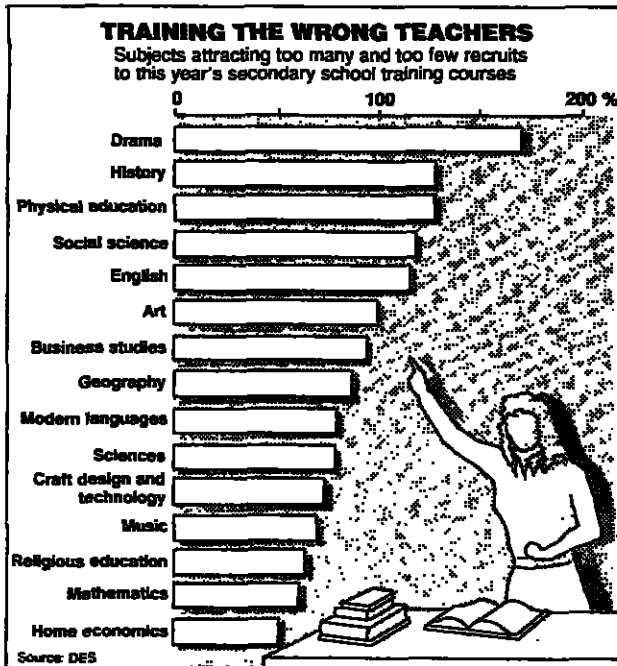
The TUC protests at the proposals today, saying that they would do immense damage to industrial relations, and calling for a meeting with Michael Howard, the employment secretary, before the government publishes any plans. A green paper is expected next month.

In a letter to Mr Howard, Norman Willis, the TUC general secretary, says that the government's approach of more detailed restraints on unions while removing legal regulations from employers is "becoming widely recognised as one-sided, unfair and rather unworthy".

Arguing that many of the proposals have been rejected by Mr Howard's predecessors, Mr Willis says that legally enforceable agreements are impractical, that the TUC is unaware of any complaints about check-off, and that "nothing else would have the equivalent potential for disrupting key British industries" as altering the Bridlington principles.

Teachers and parents (IPPR, 30-32 Southampton Street, London, WC2E 7RA; £7.50)

Education, pages 28-29



## Shorter teaching degrees proposed

By JOHN O'LEARY, HIGHER EDUCATION CORRESPONDENT

INCENTIVES for graduates to take one-year teacher training courses, and shorter degrees for primary teachers are among training reforms suggested by the Institute for Public Policy Research today. The proposals by the left-wing think tank, which also include winding up a controversial route into teaching for unqualified recruits, might form the basis of a Labour election commitment. The authors of the report, professors Alec Ross and Sally Tomlinson, of Lancaster University, say that the BED could be completed in three extended academic years. The extra ten weeks per year would be used to improve students' English and mathematics.

At secondary level, the report proposes loans, which could be waived after two years of satisfactory teaching, to attract more students to postgraduate training courses. The authors quote unpublished statistics collected by the education department showing that, in spite of an increase in applications, this year's teacher training courses are 37 per cent below target for mathematics specialists, 20 per cent short in the sciences and 19 per cent in languages.

The report says that the licensed teacher scheme, allowing schools to recruit people without qualifications for training on the job, should be ended. The scheme has been used mostly for overseas recruits whose qualifications are not recognised here, but the report says such entrants would be better served by short,

intensive training courses. University professors accused the government yesterday of hampering their efforts to collaborate more closely with the rest of Europe. The National Conference of University Professors supported the main aims of last month's higher education white paper to expand student numbers and remove the distinction between universities and polytechnics, but regretted no mention of Europe.

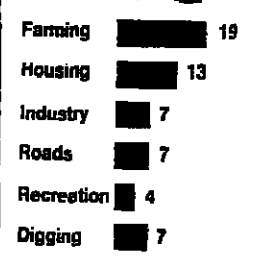
Teachers and parents (IPPR, 30-32 Southampton Street, London, WC2E 7RA; £7.50)

Education, pages 28-29

## Intensive farming puts badgers' future at risk

By MICHAEL HORNBY, AGRICULTURE CORRESPONDENT

**HOW MANY ENDANGERS THE BADGER?**



BADGERS are facing a bleak future in one of the most intensively farmed counties in England, according to the most detailed regional survey of the creature's habitats and distribution.

Researchers in Essex who revisited badger setts surveyed 20 years earlier found that 36 per cent of previously identifiable setts had gone or were derelict. The number of remaining setts occupied by badgers had also decreased by 14 per cent.

Stephen Harris, a zoologist at Bristol University and one

of the authors of the survey, said that Essex was probably an extreme case, because of the intensity of agriculture and land use change, but it was a pointer to the way things could go. "Nationally, the badger population is still moderately healthy, but potentially vulnerable."

The first survey between 1963 and 1971 found that 548 out of 574 setts visited were in reasonable condition, 17 were identifiable but long out of use and five had been destroyed by farming. By the time of the second survey between 1983 and 1986 200 more setts had vanished or become derelict.

Farming was the main

cause of set loss, especially in the north and southeast of the county. Loss due to road-building and housing, industrial and recreational development was heaviest in the south near expanding urban areas and the outer London suburbs, according to the findings in *Mammal Review*.

Persecution destroyed few setts, but the proportion of viable setts interfered with increased from 12.7 to 21.8 per cent. The repeat survey found 10.9 per cent of setts disturbed by digging, 9.2 per cent stopped and 1.7 per cent showing evidence of gassing, poisoning or snaring. Set size had declined, with the typical number of entrance holes

down from six to three. The most popular habitat was woodland, accounting for 38 per cent of setts, followed by copses (18 per cent), hedgerows (18 per cent), scrub (12 per cent), fields (6 per cent), gardens (5 per cent), parks/golf courses (2 per cent) and cemeteries (1 per cent).

The Nature Conservancy Council estimates that there are 250,000 adult badgers throughout Britain of which 9,000 to 10,000 are killed by diggers every year. As many as five times that number, however, are killed by cars and 700 are trapped and shot by the agriculture ministry to prevent them spreading tuberculosis to cattle.

## Cautionary tales from the BFG

By RAY CLANCY

CARTOONS that show a boy being decapitated and a girl being dragged along a railway station platform after becoming stuck in a train door are used to illustrate a new British Rail safety booklet for children.

The guide, written by Roald Dahl just before his death in November, is a humorous but blunt warning of the dangers on the railways, on which an average of 100 people, including 30 children, die each year.

Copies of the booklet, *Roald Dahl's Guide to Railway Safety*, illustrated by Quentin Blake, are being sent to all primary and middle schools in Britain. BR staff and police officers will visit schools to reinforce the message, and a further 1.5 million booklets will be distributed at railway stations.

Sir Bob Reid, chairman of British Rail, who launched the guide at the weekend, said that it faced the reality of what can happen when young people go on the tracks after climbing through holes in fences, and of how children can get disfigured by electrical burns or killed.

"If the guide saves just one life it will have been worth all the work and all the cost," he said. "But I believe it will save far more and that the lessons young people learn now will be passed on not just to their parents but in due time to

their own children." In his introduction, Mr Dahl tells children that although they may think that adults are always telling them what to do, in some cases they are worth listening to and ignoring railway safety advice could cost children their lives.

The booklet includes warnings about riding bicycles along the platform, leaning out of moving trains, opening doors before the train has stopped, and going beyond closed level crossing barriers.

Children are also told not to jump down onto the line if they drop something but to ask a member of staff to help, never to walk on a railway line and to report any gaps in fences to an adult.



A Quentin Blake cartoon for the BR booklet

## New comet for Giotto to chase

By NIGEL HAWKES, SCIENCE EDITOR

A SPACECRAFT that five years ago took the first close look at Halley's comet is to be revived from its long sleep in space and sent in pursuit of another comet.

The European Space Agency has agreed that about £10 million should be spent to take a look at a comet called Grigg-Skjellerup, which will be in the right place to be intercepted by the spacecraft Giotto on July 10, 1992.

The project is a bonus, because Giotto was not expected to survive its encounter with Halley's comet in March 1986. In spite of passing through a hail of dust, Giotto emerged with about 60 per cent of its instruments working.

Since then, it has continued to orbit the Sun. After it is brought back to life this autumn, it will be put on a collision course with Grigg-Skjellerup, a comet without Halley's star quality but of considerable interest to astronomers. It is older than Halley, so observation may disclose something of the physics of how comets evolve.

Unfortunately, the camera that took close-up pictures of Halley is not working, and efforts to bring it back to life have failed. Observations of dust, plasma, magnetic phenomena and cosmic rays should, however, be possible.

## Women to get advice on health

Virginia Bottomley, the health minister, will today challenge women to join her in a crusade to improve their health. She will launch a £400,000 leaflet campaign telling women how they can help themselves to meet the government's green-paper targets for public health.

The leaflets contain advice on health matters from the dangers of smoking during pregnancy to the importance of screening for breast and cervical cancer, and telephone numbers for organisations that offer further information.

## Army death

A Royal Artillery display team motorcyclist, Gunner Malcolm Dowd, aged 25, from Tyneside, was killed and two others were injured when their machines collided during a mid-air cross-course finale of a performance at Ingliston, Lothian.

## Woman held

A woman aged 33 was being questioned by police yesterday about a fire at an old people's home at Keighley, west Yorkshire, in which a woman aged 80 died.

## Girl killed

A girl aged 16 making a call from a public telephone box was killed when a Rover car crashed into it at Wallasey, Merseyside, on Saturday. The driver, aged 20, also died.

## Heroes tribute

The 23 army bomb disposal experts who have lost their lives since 1945 were commemorated for the first time when a memorial was unveiled at the army ammunition depot at Kington, Warwickshire.

## Something blue

A police van with its siren wailing and blue light flashing delivered a bride to her wedding service at Borehamwood, Hertfordshire, after the pony and trap in which she was to travel were involved in an accident.

## Kew auction

An auction of unusual plants, including Kangaroo Paws and Bottlebrush plants from Australia, takes place at the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, south London, on Thursday, to raise money for a water cascade in a new rock garden.

## Fast learners

Boys from Oundle school, Northamptonshire, beat their own British land speed record for electric cars yesterday, driving a school-built vehicle at 66.42 mph.

## Children die

Two children believed to be a girl aged two and a boy of three months died in a fire at a cottage in Kinnear, Grampian, early yesterday morning.

## Bond winners

Winners in the National Savings Premium Bonds weekly draw are: £100,000, bond number 21WW 205348, winner from Essex; £50,000, 26AL 483579, Chesterfield; £25,000, 26PZ 949885, Lancashire.

## Army displays its natural instincts

By MICHAEL MCCARTHY, ENVIRONMENT CORRESPONDENT

THE army took nearly 300 guests onto Salisbury Plain at the weekend to look at its less well-known defence capabilities: of Roman remains, woodlands, rare flowers and wild brown trout.

To the accompaniment of the showering song of skylarks and the distant crump of artillery, Major-General Anthony Pollard, GOC South-West District, led the visitors on a conservation tour of the sweeping uplands, insisting that the often violent presence of troops can paradoxically leave the countryside they

rumble over better protected than it would otherwise be.

Standing on Haxton Down near Tidworth, where recently a full battalion of paratroops had landed, many agreed. The chalk grassland was full of brilliantly coloured wildflowers that for most people are merely a memory.

The army's century-long presence on the plain's 93,000 acres has prevented the intensive farming that has destroyed such flora over most of Britain, and it is monitored and cared for by the army's own local conservation groups.



THE TIMES MONDAY JUNE 24 1991

Sea Harbour

Women get add on heal

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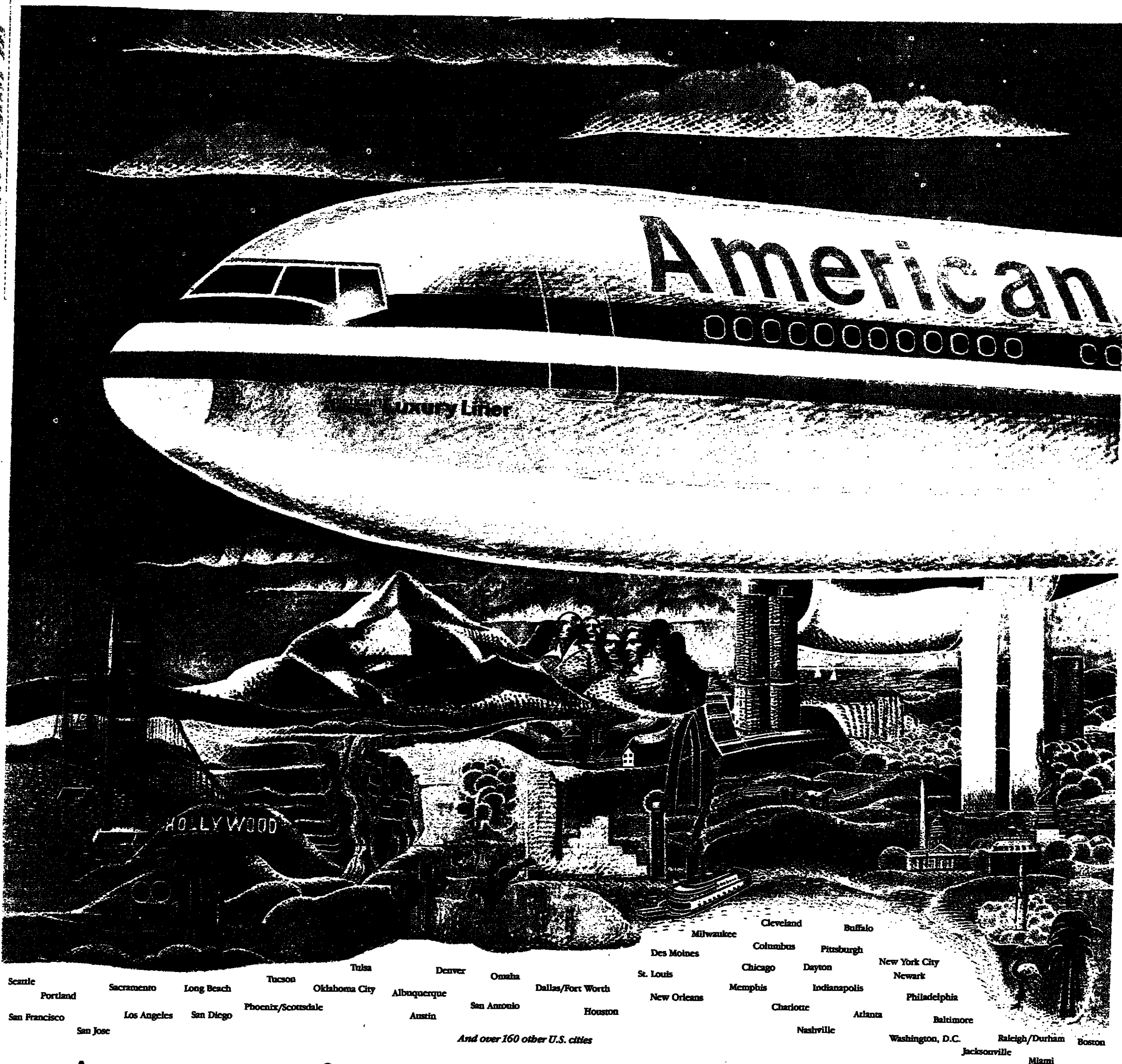
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Girl

Heroes

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# American to America.

Starting July 2, American Airlines announces more flights to more U.S. cities than any other airline.

Only one airline is big enough to give you all of America. And that's American Airlines. Beginning July, you can fly American's expanded International Flagship Service\* from Heathrow and Gatwick nonstop daily to 7 major U.S. gateway cities—starting July 2 with New York, Newark, Chicago, Boston, Miami, and Dallas/Fort Worth. Followed July 21 with Los Angeles. And American's service doesn't end there. Fly American to Over 250 Cities. Without changing airlines, you can fly American to over 250 connecting cities in the U.S., Canada, Mexico, the Caribbean, and Latin America. American Service Starts from the Ground Up. Our warm friendly service and dedicated attention to detail begin the moment you make reservations. We can reserve your seats up to 11 months in advance.

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	Leave	Arrive	Flight No.	Service Effective
<b>From: Heathrow</b>				
To: Boston	12:00	14:25	109	2 July 1991
Chicago	09:55	15:00	87	2 July 1991
Chicago	13:45	16:25	47	2 July 1991
Los Angeles	10:30	14:30	137	21 July 1991
Miami	10:00	15:10	57	2 July 1991
Newark, NJ	11:00	14:25	115	2 July 1991
New York (JFK)	09:00	11:50	101	2 July 1991
New York (JFK)	11:30	14:20	105	2 July 1991
New York (JFK)	18:00	21:00	107	2 July 1991
<b>From: Gatwick</b>				
To: Chicago	10:05	15:20	87	13 June 1991*
Chicago	13:25	16:40	47	2 June 1991*
Dallas/Fort Worth	10:40	14:50	51	Current
Dallas/Fort Worth	13:00	17:25	79	Current
Miami	10:00	15:05	57	Current
New York (JFK)	12:15	15:15	7	21 July 1991
<b>From: Manchester</b>				
To: Chicago	10:25	13:00	55	Current
New York (JFK)	12:00	15:00	95	2 July 1991
<b>From: Glasgow</b>				
To: Chicago	13:30	16:00	53	Current

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# Ministers try to bind Tory wounds over integration

By NICHOLAS WOOD, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

A TRIO of cabinet heavyweights took to the airwaves yesterday in an attempt to bind Conservative wounds over Europe and re-establish the fragile truce shattered last week by the clash between Margaret Thatcher and Edward Heath.

As the prime minister prepared to set out across the political minefield leading to the Luxembourg summit at the end of the week, Chris Patten, the Tory party chairman, David Mellor, the chief secretary to the Treasury, and Norman Lamont, the Chancellor, sought to end the feuding. They argued that in spite of the furore generated, Tory MPs and activists were broadly united on the approach towards integration being pursued by John Major.

From the Euro-enthusiast wing of the party, Mr Patten endorsed the prime minister's "one step at a time" approach, saying that the arguments about a single currency would not be decided for very many years. He said it was "pretty much of a luxury" to be

debating a single currency when there were considerable differences between EC members states over inflation, interest rates, unemployment and public borrowing. These would have to converge before a single currency could become a serious proposition.

His remarks were calculated to appeal to many Eurosceptics, who have indicated to the prime minister that this is a position they can support.

Mr Patten denied that the Tories were fundamentally split over Europe. Pointing to opinion polls, he said in an interview on BBC Radio 4's *The World this Weekend*: "John Major carries the country with him in that hard-headed and practical approach." There was no question that the prime minister's position, emphasising the need for convergence, was one that the majority of the party were prepared to support. It would be "ridiculous" to have an argument about a "theoretical controversy".

In a reference to the row between Mrs Thatcher and Mr

Heath, Mr Patten said that there were "one or two people conducting the argument" while the majority of the party was content to leave the negotiations to the prime minister, Douglas Hurd, the foreign secretary and the Chancellor.

Interviewed on TV-am, Mr Mellor suggested that the dispute between the two former prime ministers was more to do with their personal antagonism than the issues. Indicating that the two protagonists should reflect on this, Mr Mellor said decisions about a single currency were so far off that it was "silly" to have a "sulphurous" row about it.

Mr Lamont also denied that Mr Major was seething over Mrs Thatcher's intervention. He refused to rise to the bait of her hostility to a single currency or her second thoughts about British membership of the European exchange-rate mechanism. Speaking on BBC television's *On the Record*, he said she had possibly overstated the case against a single currency.



Peak time: Edith Cresson, the French prime minister, sporting a cap at the Paris air show yesterday, insists France must be Germany's economic equal in the EC

## Delors forces his own image on unification

Britain should hold out for a looser European model as an alternative to the structure planned, George Brock writes from Luxembourg

Jacques Delors is a conjuror. He has an audience which wants to believe in the inevitability of a united Europe. He has willing assistants in the capitals of Europe who are helping the magician of the European Commission create the illusion that Europe is on the brink of unification. Only stubborn, inconvenient Britain stands in the way.

This simple picture will bounce around the world's media during the next week. As he prepares for the European summit at the end of this week, Mr Major will be told that resistance to the inevitable is futile. M Delors and the federalist bloc of governments in the EC know that lonely British reluctance in Europe is an image that the prime minister desperately wants to avoid. So the supporters of the new community treaty have seized on this weakness to try to push ahead quickly. The six Christian Democrat prime ministers — including Helmut Kohl, the German chancellor, who met last Friday and urged Mr Major to join the latest move to federalism — are running short of patience with Britain again.

But this tableau of British "isolation", so familiar to European audiences during the Thatcher years, is an illusion. The urgency to sign by year's end is artificial. All 12 governments must agree on the most important changes since the EC began.

The key figures behind the draft treaty, which appeared last week, are M Delors and his close friend Herr Kohl. At the moment of the greatest change in wider Europe since the second world war, the two men are trying to snatch a successful treaty from the jaws of change. M Delors, in particular, is in a hurry.

M Delors's era will end when he leaves the commission presidency in 18 months, although both he and Herr Kohl would like his tenure renewed for a couple more years. M Delors wants to leave office with the fusion of European currencies arranged according to his own fixed timetable. Some of that ambition has survived in the treaty, but the hesitation of Germany's central bankers and the slow down of the world economy have made the change more evolutionary than revolutionary.

Herr Kohl's price for reluctantly agreeing a single currency is progress towards "political union" which, he thinks, will soothe anxieties raised by the unification of Germany. As public opinion cools on monetary union after witnessing the results of its internal currency merger, the chancellor's window of opportunity is closing.

M Delors and Herr Kohl have just persuaded President Mitterrand to plunge ahead with the treaty by including the French dream of an EC army in the text. But the French political class remains neurotically ambivalent about political union and not entirely reconciled to a single currency.

As these players pursue the traditional agenda of European unification, the face of Europe is changing, and along with it almost every assumption about the future of the EC. A senior ambassador to the community recently described the "Delors dream" to trying to prevent any new members joining the EC for a decade as "finished". The same ambassador for good measure also characterised the culture of the European commission, which Delors has run since 1985, as "statist, inter-

ventionist and centralist". By next year, the community will face more important questions. A queue of East, Central European and Scandinavian states, who want to join the EC, will stretch across Europe. The stability and development of Eastern Europe will be the leading preoccupation of West Europe.

The trading policies of West European states — on which the success or failure of this year's world trade negotiations will turn — will be the pivotal factor in regenerating the ex-Comecon economies.

In these circumstances, a rolling programme to create a single, federal EC during the 1990s will falter and divide. There may be separate groupings for defence, foreign policy, free trade or currency. The challenge for Britain is to hold out for that looser model which is a real alternative to what the EC majority wants.



Delors: master of unity conjuring tricks

## Trading blocs try to agree

Brussels — The European Community and the European Free Trade Association meet today in Salzburg to try to reach definite agreement on the 19-nation European Economic Area.

Both the EC and Efta said last Wednesday that they had reached a political consensus, but that serious technical problems remained. The meeting will now be a hard negotiating session rather than the planned celebration.

Efta members — Austria, Finland, Iceland, Norway, Sweden, Switzerland and Liechtenstein — are now considering joining the EC outright. Vienna applied almost two years ago. Stockholm applies on July 1. Oslo and Helsinki are considering it.

## Kurds pledge

Luxembourg — The European Community will make up any shortfall in a United Nations fund for a 500-strong police to protect Kurds in Iraq as allied forces pull out, EC foreign ministers said. They pledged to provide whatever the UN could not raise from other sources. Luxembourg's Jacques Poos said after a meeting of the 12 ministers. The cost of the operation was £32 million, he said. (Reuters)

## Male preserve

Luxembourg — Socialists Elisabeth Guigou and Anne-Marie Lizin, the French and Belgian ministers for European affairs, are up in arms at being excluded from a meeting of European Socialist ministers. Both countries sent two male ministers to the talks. (Reuters)

## East warned to act quickly on pollution

From GERARD DAVIES IN PRAGUE

EUROPEAN environment ministers have urged governments of the former Eastern bloc to set an urgent timetable for a new code of conduct to bring local standards into line with those in the West.

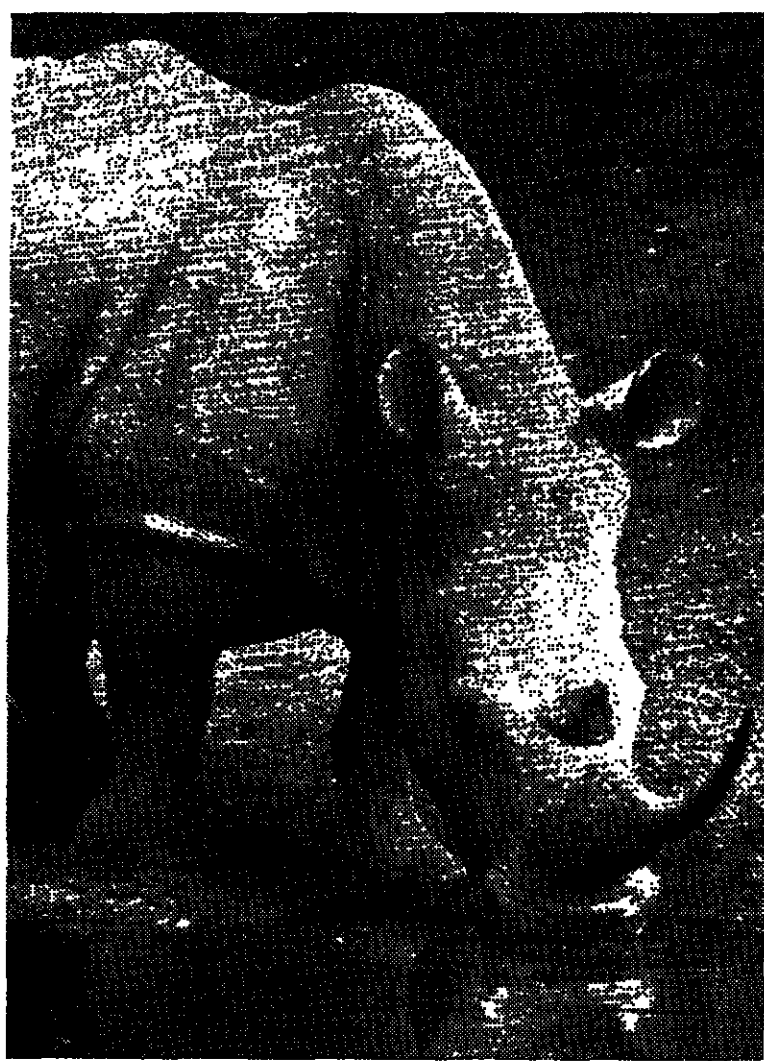
They fear that Western companies could try to take advantage of laxer legislation in Eastern Europe, deliberately using or selling technologies which are banned in the country of origin. The warnings came at a conference near Prague of delegations from more than 30 countries, including the United States, Japan and the

Soviet Union. Josef Vavrousek, the Czechoslovak environment minister, who chaired the conference, said that without the liberalisation of trade it would be difficult for countries to exert pressure on the monopoly companies which were mainly responsible for high emissions of pollutants in the so-called "black triangle" of Czechoslovakia, Poland and the former East Germany.

But he also emphasised the need to protect the countries with legislation to stop a migration of unclean industries to the East.

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# Major launches summit strategy with Dunkirk meeting

John Major will explore the French president's thinking on European matters during talks today, Robin Oakley writes

JOHN Major opens what is likely to be his make-or-break week on Europe today by meeting President Mitterrand of France in Dunkirk.

Although the meeting is supposed to focus as much on international issues for the Group of Seven economic summit in London next month, notably French and British arms initiatives, the key discussions will be those preparing the ground for the European Council's summit in Luxembourg on Friday and Saturday.

After the past week of criticism from his own party behind him, and with a crucial Commons debate on Wednesday to keep European issues on the boil, the prime minister has to seek to minimise potential confrontation at the Luxembourg meeting. Once again there are threats of a series of ambushes being prepared for Britain as the most awkward European among the 12.

Through Mr Major is supported by Helmut Kohl, the German chancellor, on Britain's go-slow on economic and monetary union, he does not know what negotiating tactics may have been agreed on Friday at the meeting between six Christian Democrat leaders: Herr Kohl, Giulio Andreotti of Italy, Ruud Lubbers of The

Netherlands, Wilfried Martens of Belgium, Constantinos Mitsotakis of Greece and Jacques Santer of Luxembourg. He may need the help of France's Socialist president to counter their tactics, notably on the drive that Luxembourg, at present holding the EC presidency, is making to have the powers of the European parliament increased. The French, like the British, have their reservations about that.

Mr Major will also be exploring Mitterrand's thinking on three other questions that Luxembourg is keen to push to the fore: the common European defence policy, the social charter, and greater EC cash aid for the poorer nations in the 12.

Mitterrand is unlikely to prove of any help to Mr Major, however, on the inclusion of words pledging a "federal goal" in the latest draft of the treaty on political union. Although those words carry a rather different meaning on the Continent, where federalism is as much about devolution downwards to regional government as upwards to Brussels centralism, such language has a potent symbolism for the House of Commons and any weakness on that front could complicate Mr Major's problems with the Conservative party.

Mr Major and Douglas Hurd, foreign secretary, are said to be ready to hold their fire at the weekend on the question of what Whitehall calls "the F-word". Officials say that they are "not going to die in a ditch" or feel that they have egg on their faces if references to federalism stay in the present treaty draft. That draft is seen as one of many before the final text emerges at Maastricht in December and government sources say that the final package then is what counts.

Britain recognises that Luxembourg wishes to have something to show for its six months of effective work in the presidency, but officials say that Mr Major and Mr Hurd are not "quaking in their boots" about the council meeting and remain adamantly opposed to any extension of powers for the European parliament, to an EC takeover of defence policy, and to the extension of qualified majority voting in the council to foreign affairs and social issues.

Mr Major sees the political

union treaty as likely to pose greater problems for Britain than the monetary union treaty, on which other nations are expected to agree to allow the British parliament to decide when and whether Britain should participate in an eventual single European currency. He points out, however, that while the other 11 could go off and do their own thing on monetary union with a new treaty, if Britain imposed a veto, the same course is not open on questions of political union, which have to be agreed by all 12 members.

The difficulty for Mr Major in steering round continental traps is that Margaret Thatcher and her Tory allies force him to disclose more of his negotiating hand than he would wish to between now and the crucial European summit at Maastricht. They are expected to cause further complications in Wednesday's Commons debate.

After the latest opinion poll, showing the Tories in a one-point lead, Mr Major will be looking at other poll

evidence. Government whips have been saying that if he determines to keep Britain at the very heart of the common market, marching in harmony with her 11 partners, and defies the hard-core rebels, then no more than a dozen Conservatives would go into the lobbies against him.

An *Independent* on Sunday poll of 109 backbenchers, however, found that 18 per cent said they would vote against the government if it proposed signing a treaty on monetary union. A total of 24 per cent would vote against the government if it proposed acceptance of a common European currency, and 33 per cent would vote against it if it were to concede real legislative power to the European parliament.

For today's Dunkirk meeting, Mr Major will be accompanied by a number of other cabinet colleagues, who will have simultaneous discussions with their French counterparts. He will be joined by Douglas Hurd, Norman Lamont, the Chancellor, Tom King, defence secretary, John Gummer, agriculture minister, and Tristan Garel-Jones, the Foreign Office minister with special responsibility for EC affairs.



Major: must minimise potential confrontation in Luxembourg



Mitterrand: unlikely to be any help to Mr Major over a "federal goal"

## Where Britain and France stand in the European debate

- ☐ Federal Europe: opposes any attempt to turn the EC into a federal superstate.
- ☐ Single European currency: supports a "hard eco" on a voluntary basis but opposed to the imposition of a common currency.
- ☐ Common defence policy: against any plan compromising Nato or excluding America.
- ☐ Social charter: moving slowly towards the idea but still has reservations over many clauses which he fears may cause job losses in Britain.
- ☐ Federal Europe: supports the idea. Suggests Confederation of Europe to include some Eastern European nations.
- ☐ Single European currency: wants a central European bank to control it.
- ☐ Common defence policy: keener on the idea than Britain but with reservations. Wants to keep control of France's nuclear deterrent.
- ☐ Social charter: in favour, subject to trade union approval.

## OPINION POLLS

### Public supports Major's course

By NICHOLAS WOOD, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

JOHN Major has solid support for the middle course he is steering over Europe, according to the weekend opinion polls. Three surveys suggest that Mr Major's pragmatic approach to closer European integration accords most closely to the mood of the public and his backbenchers.

However, Mr Major will be concerned that about one-fifth of Tory MPs would vote against the government if it accepted the so-called Delors compromise of signing a treaty on monetary union that allowed Britain to join at a later date.

The Gallup survey, conducted by telephone for *The Sunday Telegraph*, offers

Who would you trust more to handle Britain's relations with Europe, Mr Major or Mrs Thatcher?

Major	54
Thatcher	29
Don't know	3

*Sunday Telegraph*

some of the strongest encouragement for the prime minister. It finds that he is trusted more than Margaret Thatcher to handle relations with the European Community. Of all electors questioned, Mr Major has the backing of 54 per cent, compared with 29 per cent for Mrs Thatcher. Among Conservative supporters, the margin narrows slightly to 55/36.

The poll, conducted after Edward Heath's attack on Mrs Thatcher's speeches in the United States last week, suggests that the former prime minister has damaged her own reputation and that of her party by her outbursts. Only 4 per cent of those questioned think Mrs Thatcher's remarks have been helpful to Mr Major and the government; 55 per cent think they were harmful.

The survey of 655 adults also indicates that Mrs Thatcher is in a minority in her opposition to European integration. While 44 per cent of people are in favour of closer economic and political links, only 29 per cent are against.

Asked where their sympathies lay in the row between Mr Heath and Mrs Thatcher, 39 per cent sided with Mr Heath, compared with 31 per cent for Mrs Thatcher. This

finding is also borne out by a Mori survey of 1,112 adults interviewed face-to-face on Friday for the *Sunday Express*. It shows that 51 per cent of people think that Mr Heath was right to criticise his successor as prime minister; 34 per cent believe he was wrong to do so. Two-thirds of electors wish that Mrs Thatcher would remain quiet on issues when her views conflict with the government.

Eight out of ten Tory supporters questioned believe that Mr Major is best equipped to lead the country. This accords with Gallup's finding that 45 per cent of people would be less inclined to vote Tory if Mrs Thatcher made a comeback, and that only 14 per cent would be more inclined to do so.

Mori also finds that support for British membership of the EC is high, with 70 per cent of people saying that Britain should remain a member. The "yes" vote in the referendum was 67 per cent.

A survey carried out by *The Independent* on Sunday finds that most Conservative MPs — 73 out of 109 — believe that Mrs Thatcher should not stand again at the next election.

Mr Major's pragmatically pro-European stance appears to be one of the main factors

Do you think Edward Heath was right to criticise Mrs Thatcher on her views about Europe?

Right	51
Wrong	34
No opinion	15

*Sunday Express*

behind the revival in Conservative support suggested by the Mori survey. It suggests that Labour's six-point advantage last month has translated to a one-point Tory lead with 39 per cent of the vote (up 2 per cent), Labour with 38 per cent (down 5 per cent) and the Liberal Democrats with 17 per cent (up 1 per cent). According to Mori, the swing to the Conservatives is almost entirely due to a switch in allegiance by younger, middle-class voters, traditionally the most pro-European section of the electorate.

Ronald Butt, page 14

### Busy week ahead as Euro ministers meet

By ROBIN STACEY

EUROPE-related issues will dominate the week's news as senior politicians discuss the various aspects of integration in a hectic round of meetings and debates.

Monday: John Major, the prime minister, meets President Mitterrand of France for bilateral talks in Dunkirk. France EC finance ministers discuss implementation of a minimum Europe-wide VAT rate of 15 per cent, with Britain holding out against the other 11.

Tuesday: President Mitterrand meets Helmut Kohl, the German chancellor. In London, Mr Major meets the prime minister of Luxembourg, Jacques Santer, who is

hosting Friday's community summit.

Wednesday: interior ministers meet in Luxembourg to discuss the future status of internal-external EC frontiers. In London, the Commons debates Europe, and Margaret Thatcher, the former prime minister, is expected to give a key interview to *Sky News*.

Thursday: Western European Union meeting begins in Luxembourg with foreign and defence ministers debating a common European defence policy. Mr Major launches the concept of Majorism in a speech to the Tory Women's Conference, London.

Friday: two-day EC leaders' summit begins.

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## Blueprints for Soviet recovery in confusion

From MARY DEJEVSKY IN MOSCOW

ALL the Kremlin's antennae, literal and figurative, were doubtless trained on London yesterday to gauge the mood of the Group of Seven industrialised nations in advance of next month's summit. President Gorbachev, a masterful political tactician, needs to know how best to argue for the global cooperation plan he hopes will ease his country into the world community.

Beyond this one broad, and possibly utopian aim, however, Soviet hopes and intentions seem still very hazy. The existence of at least two national and several republican blueprints for economic development and outbursts of anti-Western sentiment from senior officials confuse the picture further.

President Gorbachev's public angling for an invitation to the G7 summit, something that would normally be kept firmly within diplomatic channels until both invitation and acceptance were certain, was a piece of extraordinary diplomatic brinkmanship. That the Soviet leader wants something from the G7 and wants it very badly is clear. Having secured his invitation, Mr Gorbachev has denied that he wants aid, pure and simple. Primarily, Mr Gorbachev says he wants support for the Soviet Union as it moves its

Soviet economic radical, Grigori Yavlinsky, and otherwise known as the "grand bargain" or "window of opportunity", and the Soviet government's "anti-crisis programme".

The Yavlinsky plan, still unpublished, has attracted most publicity in the West because it was jointly drafted, in its later stages, by Mr Yavlinsky and a team at the Kennedy Institute of Government at Harvard.

Like Mr Yavlinsky, the deputy prime minister, Vladimir Lukin, denies that Moscow wants big credits. He argues for foreign capital to be invested in specific projects to revive obsolete and poorly run Soviet industries and guarantees that any money would be channelled not through governments, either at the centre or in the republics, but directly to the selected projects.

President Gorbachev insists that the two programmes can be combined and that he will go to London with one set of proposals encapsulating the best of both. Neither Mr Yavlinsky, nor the Soviet prime minister, Valentin Pavlov, is happy about this, believing that their two programmes are too different.

For Mr Gorbachev, however, there is also a third consideration. An influential constituency in the Soviet Union does not want Western aid at all, either in the form advocated by the government or — especially — in the form supposedly solicited by Mr Yavlinsky. This view was represented at a closed session of the Soviet parliament last week by the head of the KGB, Vladimir Kryuchkov, who warned that Western aid was only a trap which the West would use to influence Soviet policy to its advantage.

● **Cross Montana, Switzerland:** Leaders from two rebellious Soviet republics yesterday appealed for direct Western investment to repair economic damage inflicted by Moscow.

The Moldovan president, Mircea Snegur, and the Georgian foreign minister, Giorgi Khoshtaria, were addressing 300 politicians and business leaders meeting in this Swiss holiday resort to discuss changes in the Soviet Union. (Reuters)

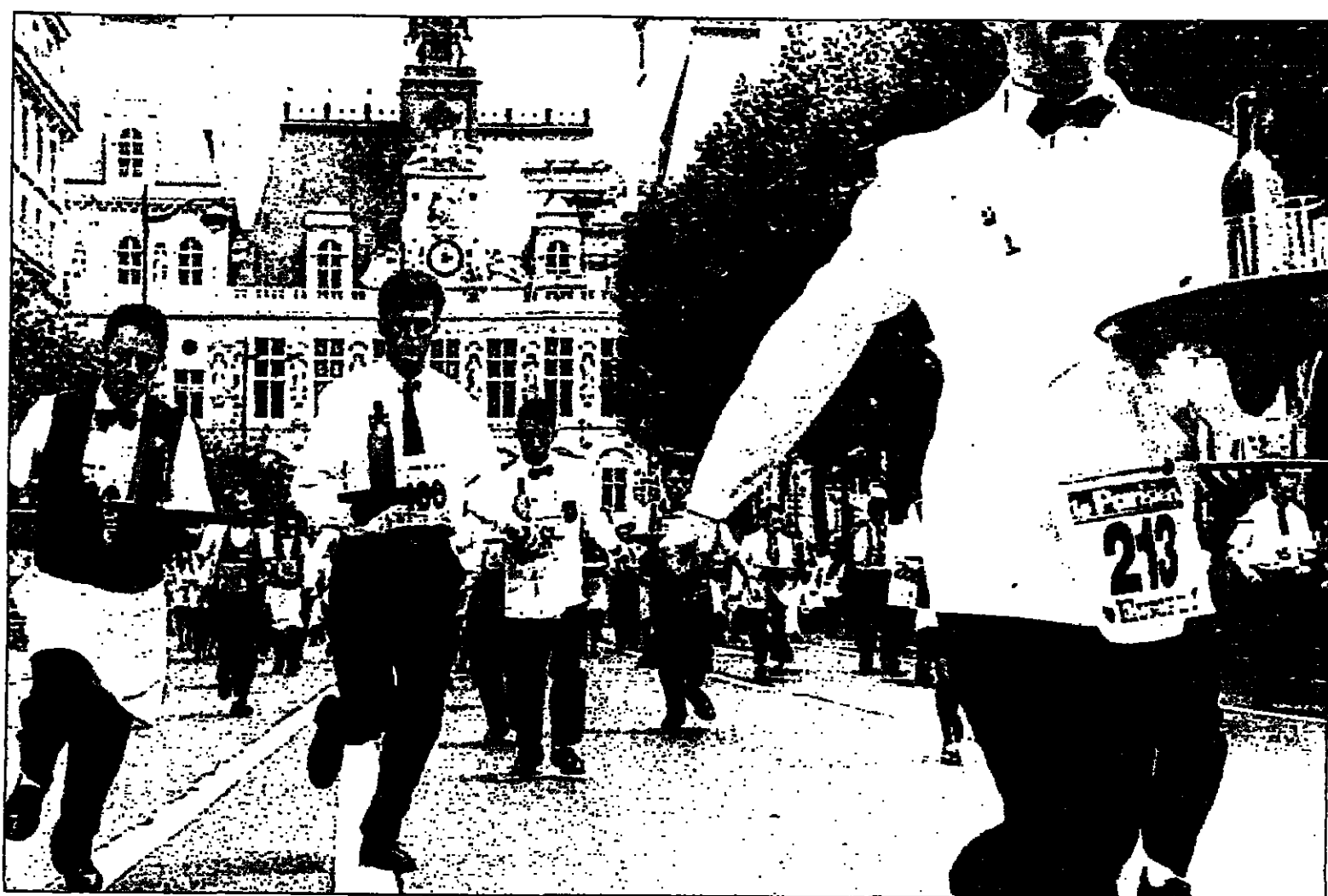
Leading article, page 15  
Business news, page 21



Yavlinsky: drafting of plan with Harvard team

cumbrous and outdated economy towards the market.

The more that becomes known about the options, however, the more they seem to entail money — and money moves one way, from west to east. This applies to both economic programmes currently under discussion: the so-called Yavlinsky plan, named after its main author,



Swift service: Paris café waiters running in their annual race in the centre of the French capital. Each waiter must carry a metal tray bearing a bottle and three glasses over the five-mile course. This year's winner was Gerard Urvo, of the Le Boent Jardinier restaurant, in 31 minutes 54 seconds

## Slovenes warned about falling living standards

From TIM JUDAH IN LJUBLJANA

SLOVENIA's minister of finance, Dusan Sesok, warned yesterday that Slovenes could expect their standard of living to fall by as much as 30 per cent over the next two years after next Wednesday's declaration of independence from Yugoslavia. "It will be very hard, especially if no one helps us," he said.

After the failure of protracted negotiations on Yugoslavia's future, Slovenia is now set to declare that it has left the state which was founded in 1918. No country has said that it will recognise Slovene independence. Last Friday the American Secretary of State, James Baker, who was visiting Belgrade, delivered the bluntest message of disapproval for Yugoslav devolution ever given by a visiting dignitary. Asked whether the United States was prepared to recognise Slovenia he said: "No we will not."

Despite these diplomatic setbacks Mr Sesok said that he was confident that Slovenia would survive "even without money from anyone". He said that Slovenia's population of two million was only eight per cent of Yugoslavia's population but "we produce 22 per cent of GNP and 35 per cent of the country's exports".

Mr Sesok said that Slovenia

would remain part of the Yugoslav banking system pending negotiations on the future, but if these collapsed or "if we have any problems with Belgrade then we will leave it immediately. We already have our own notes ready and waiting in the bank".

Slovenia recently reached an accord with Belgrade over the payment of customs duty up to Wednesday, but he said that after this no more money would be sent to the federal government. The roots of Slovene disenchantment with federal



Yugoslavia are both cultural and economic. Until 1918 Slovenia was part of the Austro-Hungarian Empire and ever since its people have regarded themselves as more than "civilised" and "European" than those parts of Yugoslavia, especially Serbia, which were part of the Ottoman Empire. In the last few

## Elegant Bonn is put up for sale

From IAN MURRAY IN BONN

FOR SALE notices are going up already on some of the most sought-after addresses in Bonn and Bad Godesberg, the diplomatic suburb of the city. Within hours of the decision to move Germany's government to Berlin, estate agents were inundated with calls from owners anxious to sell off the big mansions they have been profitably letting.

Many were built as retreats by Rhineland industrialists in the days when Bad Godesberg was a thriving spa resort. Unsuitable as modern family homes they were nevertheless ideal as diplomatic residences. Now the ambassadors are house-hunting in Berlin, the mansions threaten to be a drag on the Bonn property market for years to come.

Unless, that is, Bonn can find a new vocation, which will bring a different kind of wealthy tenant there. The best hope at the moment is that they will be academics and senior civil servants.

The decision to move to Berlin came just as the city seemed on the point of shedding the image of "a small town in Germany" with which John le Carré had damned it. A massive £700 million construction programme of government buildings, including a museum art gallery

and a complex of offices for MPs. Work on building a worthy meeting place for the Bundestag of the united Germany is well advanced, near the converted waterworks which served as the parliament building for the past 40 years, but which is now too small to accommodate everyone. With 659 of the 662 members present for the vote last Thursday, the old building was bursting at the seams, with some forced to sit on the floor to await the result. The new £100 million Bundestag will take another year to complete, so it will have a limited life doing the job it was designed for.

Just when the ambassadors ought to move to Berlin cannot be sure yet. The government may well not leave Bonn for a decade, although with the president's main residence in Berlin, accredited ambassadors will probably need to be there as well.

Meanwhile in Berlin the task of making the old Reichstag building serviceable within four years looks daunting. Rebuilt after the war, without its dome, it has been found to be heavily impregnated with blue asbestos which will have to be removed to make it a safe place for deputies to meet.

## Albanian crowds warm to Baker

Tirana — Exuberant Albanians thronged Tirana's streets and squares on Saturday to greet James Baker, the American Secretary of State, as a symbol of the freedom for which they had long yearned.

Mr Baker told the estimated 200,000 people in the city's central square: "At last you are free to think your own thoughts. At last you are free to speak your own minds. At last you are free to choose your own leaders."

The crowd surged forward and nearly toppled the platform where Mr Baker stood in the 100F (38C) heat. They chanted "Rushi, Rushi!" and "America, America!"

Mr Baker was the highest-ranking American official to visit Albania since it emerged from communist isolation in December.

Vili Buri, the Albanian prime minister, told the crowd that Mr Baker's seven-hour visit "announces a new era in Albania". Mr Baker also met leaders of the opposition Democratic party. (AP)

## Police bombed

Madrid — A car bomb exploded outside a police station in the Spanish capital injuring five policemen. The car appeared to have been rolled towards the building but hit a row of parked motorcycles, softening the impact of the blast. No group immediately claimed responsibility for the attack. (Reuters)

## Cabinet named

Ankara — Mesut Yilmaz, Turkey's new prime minister, has excluded all but one supporter of his predecessor from his cabinet, which the Motherland party hopes will revive its flagging popularity. "I hope this will be the beginning of a new political era for Turkey," Mr Yilmaz said. (Reuters)

## Harald blessed

Oslo — King Harald V, aged 54, the first Norwegian-born monarch to assume the throne in 621 years, was blessed in a church service reminiscent of a coronation. He became the third king of modern Norway upon the death of his father King Olav, a British-born Dane, in January. (Reuters)

## Dog shoots man

Brussels — A dog knocked into a loaded shotgun, setting it off and killing his master, a Belgian newspaper reported. The daily *Vers l'Avenir* said the dog, a French spaniel, jumped on to the back seat of a four-wheel drive vehicle where Jean Guillaume had left the gun and set the weapon off, killing him instantly. (AP)

## Kurdish rift grows wider over deal with Baghdad

From ANDREW FINKEL IN ZAKHO, NORTHERN IRAQ, AND MICHAEL THEODOULOU IN NICOSIA

CONFLICTING statements this weekend by Iraq's two main Kurdish rebel leaders over a draft autonomy deal with Baghdad reflect what many see as a growing rift in Kurdish ranks about making concessions to President Saddam Hussein that could tighten his grip on the country.

Masoud Barzani, leader of the Kurdish Democratic Party, said he would soon sign an agreement with the Iraqi leadership that would ensure free elections in Kurdistan and Iraq. He said he had won the backing of the other factions in the Iraqi Kurdistan Front at a meeting on Friday and would return to Baghdad and sign it "with the support of the Kurdish people".

But Jalal Talabani, leader of the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan, insisted draft agreement

had not yet been approved and that further debate between Kurdish leaders was needed. Before leaving Turkey where he has spent several weeks, Mr Talabani, told the Anatolian news agency "agreement with Iraq is possible if all the leaders agree on the draft and approve it". Mr Talabani, who arrived in Iraq yesterday and whose failure to attend the meeting was said to show his lack of confidence in the agreement, added: "The most important thing is to establish a democratic regime and constitution in Iraq."

Kurdish sources say that the Iraqi leader has refused even to discuss constitutional amendments before the Kurds have signed the autonomy agreement.

Mr Barzani said the draft accord stipulated free elec-

tions in Kurdistan in three months' time and in the rest of Iraq within six months to a year. The Kurds would control their region in northern Iraq, except for military affairs, foreign policy, finance and mineral wealth. The oil city of Kirkuk would come under joint administration.

He has acknowledged that in several weeks of talks in Baghdad, he failed to agree on the boundaries of the Kurdish autonomous region and on international guarantees to underwrite the treaty. Calling for a big Kurdish leap of faith, Mr Barzani said that trust was "the best guarantee between Baghdad and the Kurds".

In Dahuk yesterday a city outside the Allied exclusion zone, people sitting in a sidewalk tea house expressed their support for a deal they were reading about in a government newspaper. Kurdish leaders were shown on the front page in Baghdad greeting Saddam on the occasion of yesterday's religious holiday.

Dahuk was a city which was nearly deserted just over a month ago and whose inhabitants, returning from refugee camps, were openly sceptical that lightly armed United Nations security guards could keep them safe. Now, one month after the UN first entered the city, people were claiming that "if the UN go, we go", a paraphrase of the threat to desert the city when the Allies pulled out at the beginning of June. Genuine fear of Saddam is mingled with a new sense of confidence. "Now," said one teacher, "we are all peshmegas."

● **Ankara:** The allies have withdrawn all but 5,100 troops from Kurdish refugee havens in northern Iraq, a United States military spokesman said yesterday. (Reuters)

## US jets hunted Saddam's mobile HQ

From SUSAN ELLICOTT IN WASHINGTON

PRESIDENT Saddam Hussein came close to being killed by American jets hunting a mobile home which he used as a portable command centre during the Gulf war, an American newspaper said yesterday.

The Long Island-based *Newday* said that US commanders led a search during the war for the Iraqi leader's \$350,000 (about £220,000) vehicle, a green mobile home known as a "Wanderlodge", the type used by film stars. American military officials said Saddam used the mobile home to dodge warplanes and bomb attacks by keeping on the move. "We really went after him," the newspaper quoted one general as saying.

His remarks contradicted the Bush administration's claim during the war to liberate Kuwait that Saddam himself was not a military target. The White House emphasised that the allies were aiming at the Iraqi chain of military command, and was so sensitive to suggestions that President Bush sought to harm the Iraqi leader that an air force general was fired before the war for saying that Saddam and his family were prime targets.

But one official compared the hunt for Saddam with the intensive search for Scud missile sites in Iraq. The leader's brushes with death reportedly included an attack by two American F-16 Falcon jets on a convoy of 50 vehicles in which he was travelling from Baghdad to Basra. The pilots strafed the front and back of the motorcade, which was tracked by US intelligence, but the mobile home was untouched.

## Undercover film stirs Israeli storm

From RICHARD BEESTON IN JERUSALEM

ISRAEL's military hierarchy came under intense criticism yesterday for breaking its secrecy rules after television viewers watched for the second night running unprecedented footage of undercover military operations against Palestinians in the occupied territories.

The film revealed for the first time the secret war being waged against leaders of the intifada, who were seen being arrested by soldiers in disguises ranging from old men wearing Arab robes and head-dresses to women with Islamic head-scarves and embroidered dresses.

In one sequence, a young male soldier was seen applying red lipstick and mascara in what looked like the changing rooms of an amateur theatre group. Racks of costumes including every type of traditional Arab clothing lined one wall covering. A second soldier was clipping a bushy false moustache into shape.

The two men were filmed walking through the streets of the West Bank, probably in the town of Nablus, looking much like comedians in drag but clearly duping local Palestinians who passed them by without comment. A Palestinian suspect standing outside a home was surprised when the soldier dressed as a woman pulled a pistol out of a handbag and the old man wrestled him to the ground. The street then filled with plainclothes and uniformed soldiers and security agents and the man was led away.

Although the film, which contains several similar sequences of training and real-life operations, was aimed at boosting civilian and military morale and acting as a deterrent to Palestinians, it has drawn a heated response from senior figures associated with the military. "I asked for an urgent meeting of the foreign affairs and defence committee to understand who permitted,



Head cover: An Israeli soldier disguised as an Arab telling Israeli Television about his undercover activities against Palestinians in the occupied territories

and why, the preparation of a television report about the existence of the undercover units," said Benjamin Ben-Eliezer. The former brigadier-general is now an opposition Labour party Knesset member and deputy chairman of the influential committee, which will meet tomorrow to discuss the matter.

His concern that security had been severely compromised by the senior army echelons was echoed by Joshua Saguy, a former head of intelligence and a member of the ruling Likud party. "It is a scandal," Mr Saguy said. "Their existence was known but not their modus operandi... I called the Knesset discussion. I want the person who disclosed it to be called to order. This cannot repeat itself in the future."

Israeli press reports said that the film was released with the direct approval of Lieutenant-General Ehud Barak, the

Israeli defence force chief of staff, who was appointed three months ago but has been severely criticised for his style of leadership, particularly for his proposed budget cuts and his choice of aides.

General Barak is no stranger to the cloak-and-dagger world of Israeli undercover operations. He led the commando squad dressed as airport maintenance men which stormed a hijacked Sabena airliner in 1972, and the following year, disguised as a tourist and wearing a brunette wig, he led a team which killed three leaders of the Palestine Liberation Organisation in Beirut.

However, he faces a test of his leadership ability in the job he now occupies when he answers his critics from both the left and the right in the Knesset tomorrow.

● **Link aids:** Israeli cabinet ministers vowed yesterday to fight any American effort to link aid for Soviet

immigrants to a halt in Jewish settlement of the occupied territories. The comments were triggered by a warning from Zalman Shoval, the Israeli ambassador to the United States, that the Jewish state would have to choose between aid for immigrants and a desire to settle the occupied Arab lands.

"He expressed his fear — and I certainly share his fear — that the Americans will put it that way," Ehud Olmert, the health minister said. He defended Mr Shoval, who seemed to undermine the position of Yitzhak Shamir's government that there should be no link between aid for Soviet immigrants and the drive to increase Jewish settlement on occupied land. "What is important is the stance of the government and I don't think we have to link this and I don't believe he intended to link this," said Mr Olmert. (Reuters)

## Cyclists torment Havana drivers

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## Famine in the Ogaden worsens despite rebel victory



De Marco: shocked by camp conditions

SQUATTING in the dust and holding his emaciated son in his lap, Ahmed Bashir raised his hat above his head to shield his unconscious child from the hot sun. Wasted from starvation, the seven-year-old's body showed no trace of flesh, only bone, sinew and vein, covered with a thin veneer of dried and cracked skin. The child's ribcage rose and fell rapidly as he fought for breath.

"Why you want to know my name," Mr Bashir demanded, tears running down his face. "What good will it do. If you have to ask questions, ask God."

At dawn the next day, Mr Bashir buried his son next to the two-week grave of his daughter in the expanding

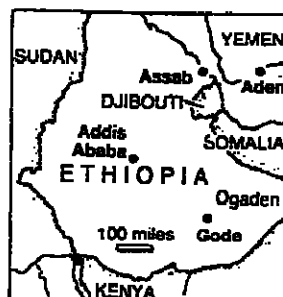
*The end of Mengistu's rule has made little difference to refugees returning home to one of the worst-hit famine areas, Tim Deagle reports from Gode*

graveyard adjoining this sprawling refugee camp at Gode in the Ogaden, eastern Ethiopia. Crowded with Ethiopians who have returned home after fighting in overworked refugee camps in Somalia, the Ogaden is the worst-hit famine area in the country.

Speaking in Addis Ababa during his recent trip to Ethiopia to discuss the international relief effort with the Ethiopian People's Revolutionary Democratic Front, James Ingram of the United Nations said that without

immediate action the situation will deteriorate. "My main message is the urgency of the situation, it deserves absolute top priority. We will be looking for donations of rather more than before because the requirements are even greater than they were and if we are not careful in this hour of extreme need, the response will not be quick enough." Only half the food and less than one-third of the medical supplies needed this year have been placed by donors.

Guido de Marco, the



president of the United Nations general assembly, visited a refugee camp this weekend and said he had been shocked by conditions there. "The only relief was at least seeing children smiling," he said after his visit to Teferi Ber camp, near the border with Somalia.

Relief work in eastern Ethiopia was interrupted last

month because of the war which ousted the government of Mengistu Haile Mariam, the Marxist military dictator. Aid work has been resumed but security is still a problem in some areas.

Until the Ethiopian front takeover and the collapse of the previous government, food was arriving regularly in Gode. In the weeks that followed, with all food distributions suspended and the evacuation of relief agency staff, hundreds who depended on aid for their only source of nourishment simply starved to death. In the camp for returning Ethiopians at Gode, the death toll reached 60 a day before volunteers in the town began an emergency

feeding programme on what little was left in the depleted stores.

One volunteer stood over a barrel of boiling porridge, slopping quantities of the yellow mixture into the dirty, rusted and chipped bowls, cups and even kettles for the hundreds of children queuing in front of him. As the barrel was emptied and pushed to one side, a group of yelling children dived head first into the metal container, fighting for scraps, their bodies disappearing completely from view, leaving only their skeletal legs dangling over the sides. When finally satisfied there was no more to be found, they emerged, their faces, arms and hands covered in the thick, yellow

mixture, which they continued to lick until they were spotted.

● **Addis Ababa:** The new Ethiopian leadership announced on state television that citizens were free to travel abroad and within the country, ending restrictions in force since Emperor Haile Selassie was overthrown in 1974.

Among the first to leave the country, diplomats said, would be 12 family members of the late emperor, who were held in prison for 15 years after his overthrow and then forbidden to go abroad. The group was given refuge in the British embassy in Addis Ababa when the government of Lieutenant-Colonel Mengistu was overthrown in May. (Reuters)

## South Africa peace panel to enforce codes of conduct

FROM GAVIN BELL IN JOHANNESBURG

SOUTH African leaders have taken an important step towards quelling political violence by forming a multi-party committee to enforce codes of conduct among their followers, and to tackle the social causes of conflict.

Delegates of the African National Congress, the Inkatha Freedom Party, and the ruling National Party agreed at the weekend to establish a peace committee comprising three members from each party, together with church and business leaders. The panel will split into working groups to consider specific aspects and draft proposals for dealing with them.

The meeting in Johannesburg was the most repre-

sentative gathering of the country's political and trade union leaders since President de Klerk launched his reform initiative 18 months ago. Only the far-right Conservative Party and Afrikaner paramilitary groups refused to attend.

The key issues were identified as codes of conduct for political organisations and the security forces, socio-economic development, and enforcement mechanisms such as a statutory standing commission and "peace secretariats" at national, regional and community levels. The panel would consult other organisations with a view to convening a forum to produce binding agreements. It would

report on its progress by the first week of August.

The urgency of the peace initiative was underlined by reports that police in the KwaZulu homeland in Natal are issuing Inkatha supporters with automatic rifles. An Inkatha spokesman admitted that the police were issuing firearms permits to party members, after a newspaper published a photograph of automatic rifles being carried at an Inkatha rally on the Natal coast.

A dissident former army officer has claimed that AK47 assault rifles have also been issued to Inkatha militants for use against ANC supporters in black townships in Natal and the Transvaal. Although there has been a slight decrease in violent incidents in recent weeks, almost 70 blacks have been killed in clashes this month.

The ANC has sparked a controversy by inviting Yasser Arafat, the chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organisation, to its national congress in Durban next week. It is uncertain if Mr Arafat will attend, but the PLO has confirmed that its ambassadors to Zimbabwe and Namibia will be present.

Nelson Mandela, the ANC deputy president, angered the influential Jewish community last year by embracing Mr Arafat in Lusaka, and then declaring: "If Jews don't like it, that's too bad." He later qualified his remark by saying his affinity for the PLO was a resistance movement did not imply anti-semitism.

● **Wedding date:** President de Klerk's son has set a date to marry his mixed-race girlfriend, newspapers reported yesterday. Willem de Klerk and Erica Adams, the daughter of a mixed-race politician, Deon Adams, met at college in Cape Town and are living together in England, where Mr de Klerk is studying.

The couple, both aged 24, will marry in a traditional ceremony in Cape Town in December, the newspapers reported. (AP)



Adams: a traditional wedding in Cape Town



Campaigner returns: Anglican Archbishop Trevor Huddleston is greeted by the African National Congress leaders Nelson Mandela, centre, and Alfred Nzo yesterday on his first return to South Africa since leaving his adopted country 35 years ago. "I am not here to celebrate the death of apartheid, because apartheid has not

ended," he said. "We have got to move into the last and shortest phase of the struggle." The archbishop, aged 78, forged close friendships with the ANC leadership while working as a priest in a South African black township for 13 years. The British-born archbishop took South African citizenship to identify with his flock and their fight

for a non-racial society, but Pretoria stripped him of his rights after he wrote a book on his experiences, *Naught for Your Comfort*, which played a key role in mobilising world opinion against racial segregation. He has returned to South Africa to attend the policy-making conference of the ANC in Durban next week. (Reuters)

## Rao chooses jobs for his ministers

FROM CHRISTOPHER THOMAS IN DELHI

THE new prime minister of India, P.V. Narasimha Rao, announced his cabinet portfolios yesterday, keeping responsibility for defence and industry to himself.

Mr Rao, who was sworn in on Friday, announced his cabinet that day but failed to allocate ministerial responsibilities as promised on Saturday.

Madhavsinh Solanki, a lawyer who served in the administration of Rajiv Gandhi, has been given the foreign affairs portfolio and Dr Manmohan Singh, a former governor of the Reserve Bank of India, will be responsible for finance. Mr Rao will also keep control of seven other departments for the time being.

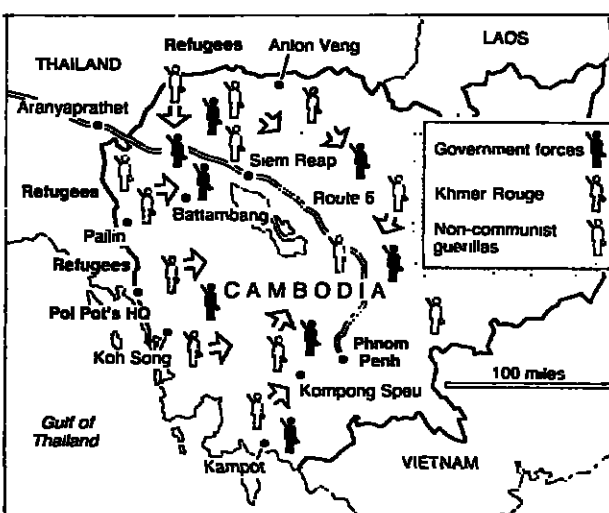
The government has also ordered the creation of a special "rapid action" force to crush riots between Hindus and Muslims. The move acknowledges that religious tension in the northern Hindi-speaking heartland is greater than at almost any time since partition.

Mr Rao announced the decision during a 20-minute speech in Hindi and English, and hinted that India faces a

severe budget within the next month. He confirmed, however, that he would seek to cut the bureaucratic barriers that have hampered India's economy and bedevilled international trade and he said that talks were under way with the International Monetary Fund to tide the country over its precarious balance of payments.

The economy is in serious trouble. At the end of last month foreign exchange reserves were barely adequate to cover imports for four weeks. Yashwant Sinha, then finance minister, said the government had a breathing space of only about a fortnight to finalise its economic strategy. If it did not do so, India could default on its international obligations.

Mr Rao's early hours in office were dogged by controversy. General O.P. Malhotra, the governor of Punjab, resigned after elections in the state were postponed 30 hours before polling was due to start on Saturday. The poll has been delayed until September, but it may not take place then because of continuing violence.



## Ceasefire agreed in Cambodia

FROM NEIL KELLY IN BANGKOK

AN unconditional and unlimited ceasefire will come into operation in Cambodia today.

All factions involved in the 12-year conflict accepted a call yesterday by Prince Norodom Sihanouk, the resistance leader and former monarch, for a lasting truce. "We have a total ceasefire, at least on paper," the prince said in Bangkok after talks with leaders of the other warring factions.

When Khieu Samphan, leader of the Khmer Rouge, the most powerful guerrilla group, was asked if he accepted the truce, he replied: "Obviously." The ceasefire, which will be formally proclaimed today when the four factions begin a new round of peace talks, is seen as the most hopeful development yet in the search for a peaceful settlement.

It was disclosed by non-communist Cambodian officials that Prince Sihanouk had threatened to isolate the Khmer Rouge from any political settlement if they continued to block progress towards peace. If they did, he said he would go alone to Phnom Penh and negotiate directly with the Vietnamese-backed government there. He threatened similar action if the Khmer Rouge violated the truce.

The prince's threats, combined with recent calls for an end to the conflict by China, the main supporter of the

Khmer Rouge, appear to have been heeded by the leadership, according to the non-communist Cambodian factions and foreign diplomats. In an unprecedented display of open-mindedness, Khieu Samphan said he was approaching the new round of peace talks in a spirit of compromise.

Hun Sen, the Cambodian prime minister, said yesterday he agreed to "99 per cent" of the prince's peace plan. A voluntary ceasefire has been operating since May 1. There have been minor infringements by both sides but they are not considered to be significant.

At his headquarters on the border, Pol Pot, believed still to be the actual leader of the Khmer Rouge, preaches political warfare rather than military action and at Anlong Veng in the north. Ta Mok, the most extreme and brutal of the Khmer Rouge leaders, has also been respecting the ceasefire.

## Fair trial plea

Dhaka — Lawyers defending the deposed president of Bangladesh, Hussain Ershad, claim he is being denied a fair trial. Sirajul Huq said he was not being given access to the former president, who was sentenced two weeks ago to ten years in prison for keeping unlicensed firearms.

## Leader retires

Bangkok — Nguyen Van Linh, aged 75, Vietnam's communist party chief and leader of the country's five-year-old reform programme, is expected to resign today at a party congress. The party has approved his request to retire because of ill health. *The Nation* and the *Bangkok Post* newspapers reported. (AP)

## Activist returns

Taipei — An exiled Taiwan independence activist who once tried to assassinate the late president Chiang Ching-kuo has returned, defying a government ban. Cheng Tze-tai, former secretary-general of the illegal Taiwan Independence Alliance, said he plans to live in Taiwan. (Reuters)

## Korean resigns

Seoul — Kim Dae Jung, aged 67, South Korea's veteran opposition leader, is expected to resign as president of the main opposition New Democratic Party after their defeat in local elections. A party convention will be held in July, the semi-official Yonhap news agency said. (Reuters)

## Tin Pan Alley

Amsterdam — The central Dutch village of Almere has opened a "Music Quarter". Among the streets in the new residential district are the Beatles Way and others named after Bob Marley, Elvis Presley, Jimi Hendrix, the Rolling Stones, the Supremes, Glenn Miller and Jacques Brel. (Reuters)

## Mouse let Loose on Sun!

If, like many Sun users, your desk is too small to accommodate a mouse pad, we can help. Morse have discovered a pad-less mouse. It is 100% Sun compatible. And more good news comes in the form of an AT style keyboard just announced by Sun. "Small" but great improvements. Call us for further details.

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NEW YORK NOTEBOOK by Charles Bremner

## Mayor fails to bridge that budgetary gap

This is doomsday week in New York, but you would never know it. The municipal authorities have been crying wolf here for about 100 years too long.

After months of dire predictions and protests by librarians, animal lovers, estate agents, the trade unions and others, David Dinkins, the mayor, and his team have failed to come close to bridging the gap of \$3.5 billion (£2.1 billion) in the next year's budget. To avert bankruptcy, Mr Dinkins will be forced on July 1 to cut severely public services and raise local taxes to a punitive level, actions that could cripple the city.

But you will not hear anyone gossiping about bankruptcy, not when there are the usual more lurid topics of the day to be savoured.

This week's menu has offered Cardinal John O'Connor, a pet cemetery scandal a gunfight around the mayor.

"God is a man," the *New York Post* declared after a sermon by Cardinal O'Connor, the conservative religious voice of the city. At a time when bibles and dictionaries are being rewritten in gender-neutral language, the cardinal pronounced that Catholics should not give up the concept of God the Father. The Vatican and the mayor have now been pulled into the furor.

The pet scandal erupted when the FBI raided the big Long Island pet memorial park and arrested its owners for fleecing thousands of citizens who had paid for the solemn interment of their dogs and cats and

up to \$3,000 for gravestones. Bulldozers commandeered by the FBI and watched by batteries of television cameras have unearthed the remains of more than 200,000 animals in a common pit. "The people responsible for this should be hanged," cried Barbara Milto, who had paid hundreds of dollars to have her spaniel Spotty cremated.

Mr Dinkins has been acclaimed as a hero for his exploits in the matters of guns and beggars. The mayor ventured into a dangerous housing estate to announce a campaign to evict tenants caught with pistols. He won admiration for remaining standing when a machinegun battle started a few yards away. In the city

housing estates so far this year, 470 people have been hit by bullets.

The mayor elicited further cheers when he proclaimed war on the thousands of beggars who live on the streets, preying on passers-by. So far the police have closed two notorious beggars' encampments in New York. A legal battle is now afoot, pitting advocates of homeless rights against the authorities. It is doubtful whether the city will have enough money to pay its lawyers.

Robert Maxwell, the British publisher, yesterday sought to shake New York out of its lethargy. "Get real... zero hour is here," he wrote in a personal editorial in the *Daily News*. "All must come together," Mr Maxwell urged, to avoid a conflagration of nightmare proportions.



# Wives cut out to suit the cloth

The popular image of the vicar's spouse is very far from the truth, Ruth Gledhill reports

Mention of the vicar's wife conjures up many images, few of them flattering. Either she is the plump stereotype in the luxurious Victorian vicarage, serving tea Trollope-style to members of the upper classes and handing out buns to tramps, or she is thin, embittered and full of inner city misery.

Steve Henshall, the wife of the Rt Rev Michael Henshall, bishop of Warrington in the Liverpool diocese, blames the press for this "faded, naive image". Determined to portray the vicar's wife as well as the vicar, she has written a book, *Not Always Murder at the Vicarage*, to be published on Thursday by Triangle SPCK (£3.99).

When her husband was ordained in the mid-Fifties, the standard picture of a clergy wife was of a "faceless figure in tweeds and brogues, with her hair pulled back in a bun, wearing a frightful hat", she says. Her brothers assumed she would always be poor, and her family wrote her off as suffering from religious mania.

Today, criticism of the clergy is compounded by an inexperience towards public figures in general, she says. The vicar's wife is a public service inherent in the priestly vocation can be submerged under this tide of mockery and disapproval. Mrs Henshall, who enjoys buying clothes, dancing and the theatre and regards such pleasures as "all part of God's creation", says she loved living in a vicarage, most of the time.

Vicarage life need not be traumatised by scandal and unhappiness, she insists. Clergymen have unparalleled job security, and the nature of the profession gives clergy families an unparalleled entrée into community life.

Eileen Carey, wife of Dr George Carey, the Archbishop of Canterbury, is dismayed by the public image of "doom and gloom in the vicarage". In her foreword to Mrs Henshall's book, she describes the joys and privileges of her life.

When she married, Mrs Carey expected to spend her life as the wife of a parish priest. He was a student and she was nearing the end of her training to be a nurse. "For two years, I was earning the bread and butter. I married at 21 and I did not have any expectations. I had enjoyed all I did throughout life."

After working as a curate in Islington, north London, and then in theological colleges, her husband



"It is a shame he does not get paid more, but we are not on the breadline," says Linda Bolton, whose husband Alan, in background, is a chaplain

became a vicar for the first time at St Nicholas, Durham, in 1975. Mrs Carey says: "Having been in a purpose-built four-bedroom box, we went into a very large vicarage, which we found wonderful."

"The thing we did miss was being part of a large team. Somehow, when you become a vicar, the buck stops with you. We had never had that experience. Before that George had been a curate, and in most cases a curate can do nothing wrong. Suddenly, we realised that when something did go wrong, the blame came to the vicarage."

Most people moving to a new home suffer that "awful job of having to make your way, find friends, of loneliness", she says. "We just do not have that in the ministry. We are immediately known and people are very friendly towards us. It is a tremendous privilege."

She did not work for 22 years, while their four children grew up. "I saw that as a full-time role. What I did not do was lose interest in the things I was interested in. Even with a young family, I went to a nursing lecture once a month to keep in touch."

"I like to think that we can be ourselves in whatever sphere God wants us to be. Some of us like to be fully with our husbands in whatever

he is doing, and see that as a vocation."

A clergy wife can have her own career and also support her husband in his work, she says. "I do not see that as conflicting."

She enjoyed the opportunities her husband's work gave them to be together. "I did not necessarily think I was any different from any other woman, except my husband was working in the house."

Being a clergy wife has been an extension of the sense of vocation that propelled her into nursing. Mrs Carey says: "It has just been an extension of what I feel I am — a person interested in the caring professions."

Many vicars' wives feel they receive little reward for the many demands placed on them. In an attempt to address this, the recent Church of England report *Faith in the Countryside* acknowledged the role played by clergy wives as "unpaid secretaries, receptionists and producers of refreshments". The report called for each diocese to

consider paying up to £2,000 a year to such wives, particularly those without their own jobs. Such payments are unlikely in the near future. In the debate at general synod last November, Sir Douglas Lovelock, the chairman of the church's Central Board of Finance, said it would cost £10 million a year to raise the clergy stipend in the way the report proposed, and give the honorarium to clergy wives.

The Church Commissioners have said that churchgoers must give more to keep stipends level with the report. There is no question that the clergyman's low pay, an average of about £12,000 this year, is a downside of marrying such a man.

Linda Bolton, aged 37, whose husband Alan is chaplain at the Central London polytechnic, says after nine years of marriage: "It is a bit of a shame he does not get paid more. That is the only drawback. The most frustrating thing is that there is no way the man can ever get any more. He cannot put in overtime because it just does not work

like that. But on the other hand, we are not on the breadline, or worrying about how to meet the mortgage."

Few vicars today live in draughty mansions. The Boltons and their three children live in a bunker-style Seventies basement flat in the polytechnic. Some clergy wives, especially those of late ordinands, can find the loss of status and material wealth galling. But Mrs Bolton, a writer and teacher of art history, has no regrets. "I have never felt that people expected me to do things."

She welcomed the unexpected respect she received on becoming a clergy wife. "When we moved from being students to being a curate and his wife, people started being very polite." Although she does not see her marriage as a vocation, she enjoys being in a position to give to rather than take from society.

Mrs Henshall, who interviewed dozens of clergy wives for the book, had an idealistic view of what it meant to be a clergy wife when she married: "Tramps in the kitchen and things." She is not disillusioned. "Whatever sort of person you are, however selfish, you cannot but realise that life has got to be lived for other people, however badly you do it," she says.

*'Some of us like to be fully with our husbands, and see that as a vocation'*

## Top marks in mother love

A-levels are over — and at least one parent is starting to miss them already

LAST week my son finished A-levels. And, as any concerned parent will know, I did too. I also ended an era of helping, teaching, researching and aiding and abetting my son's education.

My parents never had reason to get as involved in my schoolwork as I have in my son's. My work consisted of lessons, homework and exams. I had never heard the words "project", "critical study" or "course work". The advent of these new educational dimensions has involved the concerned parent.

It all started when my son was in primary school. A project on cricket took us to Lord's museum; old cigarette cards of cricketers were found at the backs of drawers and lovingly mounted, and I went off to the library to find out more about W.G. Grace.

This was followed by projects on the Aztecs and Incas, the computer (after which I had the courage to buy a word processor) and the Tudors and Stuarts, a venture that not only took us to the National Portrait gallery but also to Holland Park to find a King Charles spaniel to photograph. A nice touch, that, I thought. So did the teacher.

My favourite project was called *Oddities of Nature*. We drove to Arundel to visit Potter's Museum of Curiosity, which featured many a two-headed pig in alcohol. Access to a newspaper library (full of Siamese twins) made the project pages even more interesting, and I ordered books on the Elephant Man and Barnum's circus.

But all this required work — buying Letraset, finding special postcards, photocopying illustrations, not to mention discussions, suggestions, sulks, arguments and then enormous pride and satisfaction when something worked. I thought it was all over

*'I am driven by love and hormones rather than ambition'*

because I enjoy it — and because I am driven by maternal feelings of wanting to give him as much as I can, driven by love and hormones rather than ambition.

I have often wondered what happens to children taking history of art who live in the country and cannot get to the Orange Street Library. What of those who cannot find a postcard of the Magritte picture that says it all? And what happens, too, to parents like me when their children grow up and leave school?

There is nothing a parent likes to complain about more than having to help a child with course work, A-levels or projects. But now the A-levels are over, I find those are exactly what a parent misses most, when she is left with all the inventiveness, love and resources, but nowhere to channel it.

HARRIET HAMMOND  
© Times Newspapers Ltd, 1990

## Unwrapping the scrolls

The Dead Sea documents have been dogged by controversy, but now a few ghosts may be laid to rest in Oxford

Two thousand years ago, unknown hands hid precious religious documents in caves in the desert at Qumran beside the Dead Sea, to protect them from the dangers of a world full of savage political and religious conflict. Forty years ago, the Dead Sea scrolls were rediscovered, and emerged into a world still much the same.

Scholars hailed them as a discovery that could bring into sharp focus the scarcely known context from which the historic figure of Jesus Christ emerged. They are many centuries older than any other texts of Judaism or Christianity to have survived physically intact, without the intervention of generations of copyists and rewriters of history.

But since their discovery, their story has largely been a sad chronicle of axe-grinding, foot-dragging and backbiting, against a background of political strife and lucrative skulduggery. Scholarship was disrupted by war, which transferred most of the texts and the site of their discovery from Jordanian to Israeli control.

Much of the treasure — perhaps a fifth of its bulk — remains unpublished, giving rise to accusations that there has been a cover-up, motivated by fears among the predominantly Christian editors of what the scrolls might reveal about the origins of their faith.

Next month, Britain is to become a centre of international research into the scrolls. A study centre will open at Oxford, marking a new stage in what scholars hope will be an era of greater openness in the field. The Oxford Centre for Postgraduate Hebrew Studies, an independent body with close links with Oxford university, claims that its photographic archive of the tens of thousands of scroll fragments will be perhaps the only place in the world where copies of all the scrolls will be found under one roof.

But at suspiciously remain deep, after more than a generation in which editors have jealously withheld data from the gaze of rival scholars.

The news about the centre's Qumran Room will be announced today by Professor Geza Vermes, director designate of the new archive. In a gesture of scholarly showmanship, he means to announce at the same time the results of recent carbon-14 dating tests on major documents in the collection.

The exact date of the scrolls has been one of the most sensitive issues in the controversies that have raged around them. Some scholars

claim that the effort to find the true date was half-hearted, because of fears that the truth might shake beliefs about Jesus and what he taught.

Dr Robert Eisenman, a prominent figure in campaigns to widen access to the texts, has suggested that the scrolls chronicle in disguised terms a struggle for control of the infant Christian church, between a traditionalist leader whom he identifies as James, the brother of Jesus, and a revisionist and catspaw of the Romans. According to this thesis, the latter won the day and is now revered (by a Christendom more his creation than that of the family from Nazareth) as the apostle Paul.

Dr Eisenman's claims can only hold water if the scrolls date from the first generation after the time of Christ. The conventional view is that they date from the time of the Maccabees, up to 200 years earlier. Modern carbon-14 techniques could answer the question with a high degree of certainty. The betting is that when the test results are announced today, the conventional view will prevail.

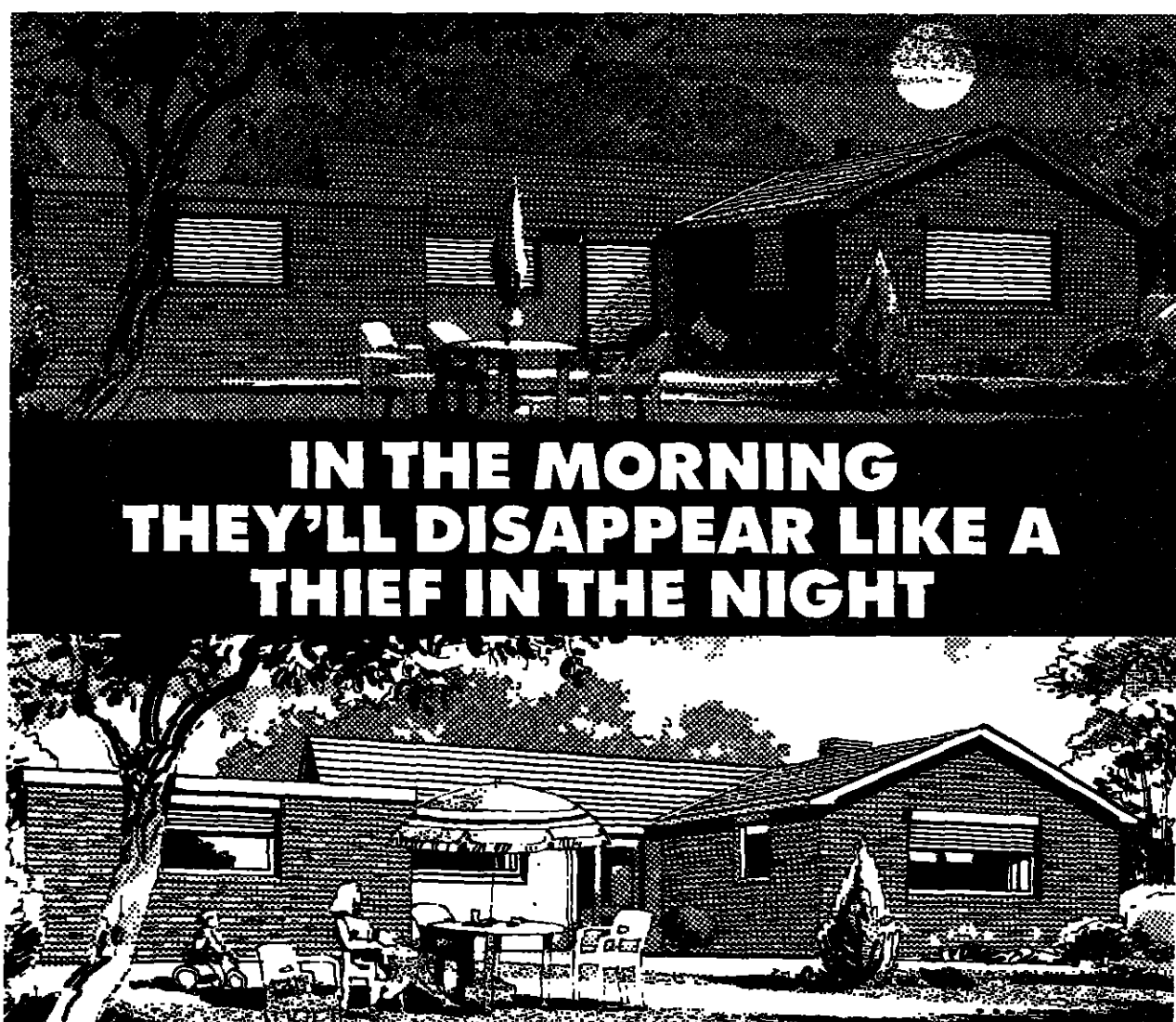


Geza Vermes: new evidence

Professor Vermes stresses that the retirement of older editors has brought about a great change in the spirit of current research. He hopes that today's editors will visit the Oxford centre, to lecture and to discuss unpublished texts with fellow researchers. But academic protocol will still apply, and access to such material will only be by permission of its designated editor. In the last resort, editors determined to play dog in the manger will be able to continue doing so.

This is unlikely to satisfy younger researchers, who have waited years to examine material that could force drastic revision of their conclusions. As one says: "I might show that everything I have written is rubbish." Such levels of impatience and suspicion will not finally be dispelled until every scrap of the texts has entered the public domain.

GEORGE HILL



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## THEATRE

Words fail  
when actions  
are so loud

Performance art combines text, music, dance and design in new ways. Kenneth Rea argues for a new critical language

What does a theatre critic write when faced with a life-size stuffed camel bursting into a drawing room set, or a row of military cadets stamping on live frogs while two princes, naked except for their crowns, dance an erotic tango to Siegfried's Funeral March?

For 20 years, performance art has been the experimental vanguard of British theatre. But according to those who create these post-modernist collages of text, music, dance and design, we have yet to evolve a suitable critical language for dealing with it. "We are still approached by mainstream critics with vocabularies and agendas that are inappropriate to the work," so says Tim Etchells, of the Forced Entertainment group. Graeme Miller, whose *A Girl Skipping* opens in London at the Royal Court tonight, believes the problem stems partly from unfamiliarity. "It's like a body of criticism that was used to seeing art as golden section, gilt frame painting, suddenly coming across something different. Within the fine art world there's been such a barrage of modernism that people have somehow managed to cope. With performance work it's hard to distinguish the good, the bad and the ugly because of not having enough to compare."

However, theatres are increasingly opening their doors to this work. Forced Entertainment will next month play a retrospective season at Sheffield's Leadmill, while the Barclays New Stages awards have backed a number of productions including *A Girl Skipping*, Rose English's *The Double Wedding* (opening at the Royal Court on July 3) and Station House Opera's *Black Works*, currently at the ICA.

The essential difficulty with performance art stems from frustrated expectations. Nurtured on well-made plays, we are conditioned to expect a story, or at least a dominant theme. But in performance art there may be no narrative, no characters, no meaning. As Rose English points out, "There's an underlying anxiety that if you don't get it, either the work was bad or you are stupid. It is appropriate to remove all anxiety about understanding right away. People don't demand meaning from fireworks."

What, then, is performance art trying to do? According to Tim Etchells, "It's about the collision of different texts that are separate from one another. Often there's a desire not to resolve, not to make a conclusion, but to leave things in suspension. So as an audience you are invited to make connections between separate things."

The most recurrent criticisms made of the genre are that it flaunts the principles of communication, is badly acted, and is all form and no content. In some instances these criticisms are justified. Performances can be seductive to the eye while leaving the brain unengaged, though the same could be said of several West End musicals. Well considered and concise structures can easily give way to loose variations on a theme that amount to little more than theatrical doodling. But there is enough good work around to make it worthwhile trying to take the genre seriously on its own terms.

Graeme Miller defends himself fiercely against any accusation that he is too preoccupied with form. "My aim is to communicate," he says. "The experiment with form is purely to find ways of communicating. This is a real issue. Music is to do with form and we accept that very willingly. If you were to accuse Bach of being interested only in form, he'd laugh. All I'm doing is finding a halfway point between the blind acceptance of a narrative, and wanting people to perceive theatre in the way they might perceive music."

No matter how good any example of performance art may be, it will always suffer from being ephemeral and transitory. There is no text to be published and the work cannot be performed by any other company, so it eventually sinks without trace. Yet at a time when playwrights appear to be floundering, performance work seems to chime with the times. It may well achieve immortal notoriety, alongside the Dadaists and Futurists, as the theatre form that most appropriately reflects the chaos of contemporary culture.

*A Girl Skipping* opens tonight at the Royal Court Theatre, Sloane Square, London SW1 (071-730 1745) and continues there until Saturday.

REVIEWS  
Theatre and Music  
PAGE 18

# MODERN BRITISH ART AT SOTHEBY'S 20TH CENTURY BRITISH SCULPTURE AND POST WAR AND CONTEMPORARY ART

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Cinema: Top stars and exotic locations do not guarantee a film success. Geoff Brown looks at the history of big-budget flops

## Dying hard at the box-office

With production costs ballooning and studios buffeted by mergers, takeovers and a financial squeeze, the last thing Hollywood needs now is a run of high-profile flops. Yet that is exactly what the current season offers. The year began with Brian De Palma's emulated version of *The Bonfire of the Vanities* — burned at the stake by American critics, though Europe proved a little more forgiving. At the end of May came *Hudson Hawk*, a profligate Bruce Willis vehicle (due for British release next month); its local box-office performance was dubbed "catastrophic" even by the production company cheerleaders.

Then, just the other week, Kevin Costner's halo took a severe knock over *Robin Hood: Prince of Thieves* (also due for a July release here). American audiences have not been deterred, but the mud critics slung is hard to rub off. Costner was even called "That Quilty with a sword".

Lavish flops are nothing new. The Eighties alone offered *Ishtar*, *Revolution*, *Can't Stop the Music*, *Raise the Titanic* and — the most notorious of all — *Heaven's Gate*. Two decades earlier, 1960 brought *Pepe*, a comedy epic which abruptly curtailed the Hollywood career of Mexican star Cantinflas; 1945 brought Britain's *Caesar* and *Cleopatra*, which almost sabotaged the Rank Organisation. Further back in time, *The Courtship of Miles Standish*, in 1923, helped topple its ambitious actor-producer Charles Ray into bankruptcy.

But this current bouquet of dashed hopes and red faces sets one to thinking. Looking back over cinema's Black Museum of disasters, are there any common ingredients or lessons to be learned? Suppose I were Max Bialystock, the Zero Mostel character in *The Producers*, who thought he could make a mint by producing a deliberately appalling stage musical called *Springtime For Hitler*. How would I proceed if I actually wanted to make a cast-iron flop?

The first thing to do would be to spread a disgusting amount of money. The more dollars a film devours before its release, the bigger the struggle to break even, let alone show any profit. The 1969 *Waterloo*, with Rod Steiger stomping round the battlefields of Europe, ate up \$25 million (£15.3 million); it recouped just a gnarl-bite — \$1.4 million — from the crucial North American market. Since then, costs and risks have escalated in tandem. *Hudson Hawk*, a silly action comedy directed by Michael Lehmann, was originally budgeted at \$40 million; delays in shooting, problems with locations and the replacement of the female lead pushed the cost up to \$70 million. Inflated budgets bring inflated expectations and clouds of dangerous hype: critics, like naughty



The verdict of his critics and erstwhile fans? Bruce Willis under pressure in a scene from *Hudson Hawk*, released in Britain next month

children, love to prick balloons. For subject-matter, I would certainly delve into history. Despite big exceptions — *Gandhi*, or indeed *Dances With Wolves* — there is something about reviving old wars and luminaries that just invites trouble. The spirit of 1776 spelled doom for Hugh Hudson's *Revolution* and its film company, Goldcrest. In earlier decades, Walter Wanger immortalized Ingrid Bergman on the altar of *Joan of Arc*; Darryl F. Zanuck poured Fox's millions into *Wilson*, a lengthy paean to President Woodrow Wilson that lay on the screen like congealed porridge; while *Parnell*, a somnolent salute to the Irish nationalist, gave MGM one of the few Clark Gable films to lose money. Such films ran counter to public taste; with their excessive talk and dull spirit of uplift, they also did little to court it.

Now for performers. For a real disaster, I would need to sign up some star with a rampaging ego, or an idol whose public appeal was such that studios had difficulty in saying no to a project when they knew they really should. Such is the case with Bruce Willis and *Hudson Hawk*: the Tri-Star company seem to have pressed on with the venture only to keep the star of *Die Hard* (and his powerful producer Joel Silver) pampered and contented.

Failing that, the Bialystock choice might be a star who cannot shake off his contemporary image, no matter what his make-up or costume. This was Al Pacino's problem in *Revolution*; it is Costner's in *Robin Hood: Prince of Thieves*. Even granted period dialogue that rolls off the tongue — an unlikely occurrence in itself — inappropriate modern accents, hairstyles and body language render the best actors ineffective.

For supporting leads, I might plump for a performer whose slender talent is being pushed too far

### 'Critics, like children, love to prick balloons'

(Cybill Shepherd, singing and dancing in *At Long Last Love*), or a star who cannot accept that the glory days are over (Lucille Ball, embalmed in soft-focus in *Mame*). If the film is a comedy, cameo appearances by the star's mugging friends might be helpful too.

With subject-matter and cast in place, my next objective would be to harass or disrupt the production as much as possible. Rushing the star to hospital with appendicitis, or worse, brings useful publicity, elongates the schedule, and, with luck, necessitates expensive re-shooting. Fox's *Cleopatra*, with Elizabeth Taylor, is a case in point. A harried

production schedule has its value, too: some of the muddle of *Robin Hood: Prince of Thieves* can probably be attributed to the race to compete with the rival *Robin Hood* starring Patrick Bergin.

The script should be subject to constant revisions and changes of personnel, giving a flavour of too many cooks to a broth that did not even taste good to begin with. For serious historical pieces, dialogue couched in modern colloquial English is essential. For comedies (think of *Ishtar*, *Howard, the Duck*, or the Bill Cosby fiasco *Leonard Part 6*), the jokes need to be aggressively stupid or almost invisible. For epics top-heavy with pictorial values (such as *Revolution*), the entire plot needs to be invisible, or at least incoherent.

The final ingredient, of course, is the director. If possible, he or she should be replaced during shooting for reasons of illness, or what are politely termed "creative differences". But whoever is at the helm, the director should be uncontrollable by the powers above, or prove unable to exert control over the groundlings below.

Michael Cimino's maverick ways set executives against him, and inflated the cost of *Heaven's Gate* to what was at the time a suicidal amount (\$35 million). Elaine May, a perfectionist given to manic re-

takes, battled through *Ishtar* with Warren Beatty and Dustin Hoffman — neither known for their dainty egos; the film finally cost \$40 million. Directors, like actors, can easily get pushed beyond their capabilities; this may have happened to Michael Lehmann, who showed a likeable, sardonic talent in the small-scale *Heathers*, but might not have the muscle to survive a flashy giant such as *Hudson Hawk*.

Sticking closely to this recipe, I would probably produce the century's mega-flop. But would it stay a disaster in the public mind? The passing years may not have vindicated *Wilson* or *Joan of Arc*; they still bore to tears. Yet *Heaven's Gate*, when released uncensored, received critical approbation as an extraordinary slice of Americana; *Revolution* has its champions, though they bat on a sticky wicket. Box-office failure does not necessarily imply poor quality; a complete list of flops would include some of the most fancied titles in film history. Griffith's silent epic *Intolerance*, Sternberg's first film, *The Salvation Hunters*, *Citizen Kane* and *Fantasia* were all films that smashed conventions of narrative and style, and paid the price with poor takings. So the Bialystock blueprint is not perfect. But for any studio itching to continue Hollywood's current run of bad luck, it is certainly a good point of reference. I offer my services.

## TELEVISION

## True values and perceived reality

At a New York auction house, the collected cookie jars of Andy Warhol are up for sale, and bids for individual lots (each lot made up of four cookie jars) are reaching sums of \$20,000 (£12,300). This is highly strange. The cookie jars were not made by Warhol; it was merely collected them. It was some kind of hobby. But for the deluded saps who purchase Warholiana (as for the Nazi memorabilia fetishists in Thames's *Selling Hitler*), a \$2 cookie jar can be worth \$5,000, and cheap at the price. The excitement in the auction room borders on hysteria: as the bidding achieves existential lift-off, the punters give a collective whoop like the guys in mission control.

Did Sotheby's have the grace to throw in a free starter-pack of Garibaldi's with each purchase? Somehow I doubt it. No cookie crumbs will sully these kitsch little fragments of the true Andy Warhol. *Relative Values* (BBC 2) finished its six-part series last night with a disappointingly free-floating programme about artistic genius, but kept the emphasis, as always, firmly fixed on the absurdity of "added value".

A painting sold as a Rembrandt for \$14 million is discovered to be the work merely of the Rembrandt studio, and its value drops to \$800,000. The painting, meanwhile, stays precisely the same. A cookie jar never touched by Andy Warhol is a piece of junk; but a cookie jar he owned is a cookie jar touched by genius. Imagine the opportunities for undetectable art crimes. As an owner of a Warhol cookie jar, you could never rest easy that a cat burglar had not crept in by night and done a switch, leaving you with junk.

But, having dealt in previous weeks with the more tangible roles of dealers, collectors, and museums in fixing art prices, the myth of "genius" was a slightly woolly concept with which to end. On the other hand, it is undoubtedly the USP (unique selling point). Buy a Van Gogh and you buy Don McLean singing "Starry, starry night",

you buy Kirk Douglas in *Lust for Life*. (These are considered pluses, by the way.) Even the visually illiterate can see the great lumps of genius on a Van Gogh canvas. Vincent thought he was applying paint, but it was pigmented genius that came out of those tubes.

In *My Defence* (BBC 2), which followed *Relative Values*, was the first in a series of six half-hour monologues. Anyone expecting Alan Bennett's *Talking Heads*, however, would have been in for a surprise. Saskia Reeves gave an extraordinary, compelling performance as Philippa Monaghan, who undertook to kill her terminally ill mother, and was subsequently tried in Cardiff for attempted murder. Convicted, she was placed on probation for two years.

The story, written by Jack Emery but based closely on Philippa Monaghan's own words in interview, was full of the terror and misery of the act that she and her mother had planned together. Dozens of sleeping pills and then suffocation had been the idea: it sounded straightforward. But between the motion and the act (as the poet said) falls the shadow. In one heart-breaking detail, she described how, when she pushed the pillow onto her mother's face, she realised she did not have a hand free; and she had promised to hold her mother's hand as she died.

The idea of the series is to celebrate people who did things they believed in: next week it is Derek Jacobi as Emile Zola penning *J'accuse*. But the real impact of last night's play was in Saskia Reeves's performance. This was high-fidelity acting: from the faultless South Wales accent to the authenticity of the distressed plea, "Can we stop now?", it was masterly. She invested the words "My mum" with such a glow of love and pride that it was quite a shock to realise afterwards that — like the First Player in *Hamlet*, crying over Hecuba — this had been an actress talking about a woman she had never met.

LYNNE TRUSS

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Ivor Crewe analyses the polls, and finds that John Major has judged the electorate nicely on integration

# Britons give a definite maybe on Europe

Europe looks set to be the focus of an election again, but of the special sort that obsesses the politicians and wears the voters.

"Europe" has never captured the British public's imagination. Surveys suggest that only one in three is European in the sense of thinking of themselves that way, or of having friends or contacts in Europe, or of voting in the Euro-elections. Britain has always come a poor last in the turnout league. Voters are not so much for or against Europe, as un-European.

Comparison with other community nations consistently shows that, with the exception of the Danes, the British are the most sceptical about the benefits of membership and the most lukewarm about moves toward further integration. There are majorities against most proposals that require a pooling of sovereignty (see table), such as a common currency in place of sterling, the extension of the European parliament's powers, and majority rather than

unanimous decision-making. When Mrs Thatcher harps on sovereignty she undoubtedly touches a popular nerve.

But it would be a mistake to interpret this as support for the "so far and no further" position of the Bruges group. A Gallup poll last December (and more recent, but differently worded, polls) found barely more than a quarter taking a recalcitrant stand on European unity. A mere 8 per cent favoured a complete British withdrawal and, more significantly, only 19 per cent wanted the status quo to remain. More than half (56 per cent) opted for "a Europe more integrated than now, with decisions that mainly affect Britain staying in British hands" and another 13 per cent wanted "a fully integrated Europe with most important decisions taken by a European government". A United

POLL RESULTS ON EUROPEAN INTEGRATION		
IN FAVOUR	FOR	AGAINST
British acceptance of European standards for cleanliness of our beaches	95	3
A programme to promote teaching of European languages throughout the Community	86	10
A "social charter" to guarantee workers' right to join trade unions and encourage worker participation	71	18
European political union with a common defence policy	67	27
EVENLY DIVIDED		
The abolition of all frontier controls	44	42
Creation of a European central bank	40	40
AGAINST		
The eventual replacement of national currencies by a single European currency	33	51
Giving the European Parliament greater powers	28	61
Giving the European Community the power to levy taxes	25	65
Removing national governments' power of veto	20	65

Sources: \* Gallup poll, December 1990; \*\* Eurobarometer, May 1991; \*\*\* ICM poll, December 1990; \*\*\*\* NOP poll, May 1991. (All figures %)

States of Europe? No. A more united Europe? Yes. Opposition to further European integration is selective and pragmatic. Abstract plans for institutional change get fairly short shrift, but European-wide schemes with tangible benefits, such as the Social Charter, are welcomed. For exam-

ple, overwhelming majorities support European-wide standards on the environment. Nor does Mr Ridley's saloon-bar xenophobia find much of an echo. The German remarks that led to his resignation last July were rejected by two voters out of three. There is widespread support for a common

European foreign and defence policy. Sovereignty is more disposable in some spheres than others.

Wariness of further integration is also tempered by realism. In the December 1990 Gallup voters split 73 to 21 in favour of the pound over a single European currency, but when asked what

Britain should do "if the other 11 EC countries move towards a single Europe-wide currency", 59 per cent answered "go along with them". John Major's claim that Britain's place was at the centre of Europe touched another popular nerve, the fear of being left behind. Neither Mrs Thatcher nor Mr Heath, therefore, are playing the right electoral tune. Mr Major's cautious gradualism is much closer to the public mood. So, too, it must be said, is Mr Kinnock's fumbling vagueness.

Yet neither leader is likely to gain extra votes for his party as a result. As a topic, Europe leaves the ordinary voter cold. Also, opinion is fairly evenly divided among the minority with strong views on Europe. This minority will be hard put to it to identify the parties' position. The Conservatives are split three ways: Lab-

our policy, while clear on the exchange rate mechanism, is indecipherable on every other aspect of European integration; and the Liberal Democrats consistently and strongly integrationist line suffers the fate of most Liberal Democrat policy of being invisible to all but the cognoscenti.

However negligible the direct electoral impact of Europe, the indirect consequences of Conservative divisions are likely to be considerable. The first law of elections is that split parties lose. If Conservatives continue to squabble publicly, thereby undermining Mr Major's authority, voters will turn away, not because they care about Europe but because they care about a party's fitness to govern. By taking the slow road to European integration Mr Major has judged the electorate nicely, but it will be to no avail if his measured reason is drowned out by the strident certainties of his party's Euro-factions.

Ivor Crewe is professor of government at the University of Essex.

## Ronald Butt

The protest vote route to power is the Achilles heel of the Labour party

Labour is now firmly on the road to winning power. Opinion polls say so and in the constituencies the talk of many Tories oozes a lack of confidence in their party's performance as they begin to think a defeat is inevitable. In the end, Labour may not seize the castle of power.

However, for the moment the noise of the Tories feeding over Europe not only saps Labour's advance but obscures its potential weakness, namely that the party relies almost wholly on negative factors.

The first of these is that Labour is not disliked as it was. Labour is no longer the party of nationalisation and controls; it has apparently abandoned unilateralism and has vanquished its extremism. (Or, if they are not quite routed, as Liverpool reminds us, perhaps they will be.) Labour has even learnt to tolerate the idea of the market.

But Labour's principal qualification for office is simply that it is not the Conservative party, which is held guilty of causing the recession and of having invented the now-abolished poll tax. The Tories are also daily discredited by reports of their divisions over Europe, even though there is much in common between Mrs Thatcher's and John Major's attitudes. Neither, unlike Mr Heath, favours federalism.

All this works for Mr Kinnock. Yet no intellectual wind blows today comparable to the one which brought Labour to power in 1964, when planning was the vogue and even Harold Macmillan experimented with it and with an incomes policy. Labour's Chancellor-in-waiting has no good words for planning. Asked on television last Friday whether his party's proposed national economic assessment was the old national plan revived, John Smith replied blandly he "found it surprising" that there had been such confidence in the national plan, pointing out that he had not been around at the time. Mr Smith saw the economic assessment as designed simply to encourage a sense of partnership and joint responsibility.

However, if Labour has no plans for planning and if the national economic assessment is

merely a public relations exercise, what would the party bring as a cure for the nation's ills? This is hard to see.

On the other side of the balance sheet, however, its proposed minimum wage will undoubtedly bring some degree of wage inflation through its effect on differentials. The party also has high spending plans which, if only partly implemented would encourage inflation, even allowing for a growth benefit from the rising curve ahead in the economic cycle.

Last week, therefore, the government produced figures showing that the total cost of Labour's plans would amount to an annual £35 billion or a rise in the basic income tax rate of 15p. There is nothing technically wrong with the figures, a civil service product, though they assume the implementation of all Labour's plans, whereas Labour would probably renege on some of them rather than commit suicide.

The Tories' exercise may therefore suffer from the fact that people are sceptical of statistics, especially when they look sensational. Yet there is nothing in Labour's programme to suggest it can deliver growth to pay for its plans and a great deal to suggest it will cause renewed inflation. The industrial climate will also be damaged by its clinging conviction that, through a myriad of quangos and by government action, it can use interventionism to rescue the market from its shortcomings.

Above all, the Conservatives depend on signs that the economy is recovering. They can also draw comfort in that Labour, over a wide range of social attitudes, from its ministry for women, its quangos, its educational attitudes and its approach to immigration law to its tax attitudes has policies which, once understood, would repel public opinion.

The Tories would do better to get to grips with Labour's policies than to wield statistics that look more improbable than the reality behind them. Mr Major's greatest political advantage is that a party whose chances of coming to power rest on a protest vote, and nothing more, is a Labour party with an outsize Achilles heel.

The story so far. On May 24, I wrote a column concerning the appalling shambles that Lloyd's of London has turned into. On May 27, a reply to my article, by Mr David Coleridge, the chairman of Lloyd's, appeared on the letters page. I have, of course, no criticism at all of his thus trying to exculpate Lloyd's, nor have I any complaint about the publication of his letter, nor do I resent anything in it: it was perfectly proper for him to reply, however feeble and evasive his case. (Possibly he thought that his intervention might help the Chancellor decide whether to give the ruined names at Lloyd's help, in the form of tax relief.)

However, I hope my readers will today forgive me for breaking my most rarely broken rule — not to reply to replies to my articles. The reason for this breach is that the annual meeting of Lloyd's will take place on Wednesday and since I have gathered a great deal more to say about Lloyd's, I felt that the best time to share it with my readers would be when Lloyd's was on show.

Anyone who read Mr Coleridge's letter in defence would have noted the flavour of complacency that rose from it; I would like to know what its effect on the poor devils who are even now facing the prospect of having their homes sold over their heads because they thought that Lloyd's, with its international reputation, must be run entirely by wise, far-seeing, efficient, cautious people.

But first let us cease to look for people to blame, and get to what has actually happened in this hidden called Lloyd's.

Never mind that the number of members has fallen by a fifth over the last decade; what about Lloyd's capacity to write insurance? It is "already well down from last year's £11.25 billion". Note the inverted commas, who says such a damaging thing? The answer is Lloyd's, in the person of its spokesman, who told the *Sunday Telegraph* as much, while other observers "estimate it could have fallen to under £8 billion by next year". There is a silver lining, if underwriting capacity has fallen, lawsuits by members against Lloyd's — Lloyd's itself, not just the syndicates — are springing up like mushrooms after rain. (I gather that such legal action has never before been taken.)

Bernard Levin  
smells the stink  
of complacency  
running through  
Lloyd's defences

But listen to Mr Colin Cook. He is the chairman of the "Feltmarm Names Association", a body set up *ad hoc* to estimate the chance (fat, as far as I can see) that something will be salvaged from the wreck of the Feltmarm group of syndicates. It is significant that his comments were directed not at Feltmarm but at Lloyd's, like the lawsuits.

It is astonishing how Lloyd's legs behind the rest of the City when it comes to introducing reforms. I am afraid it is not a genuinely professional body. It is still firmly in the 1970s, while the Stock Exchange and the rest of the City is living in the 1990s. Not only have underwriters made some appalling decisions, but a system has not been in place to weed out the idiots.

A harsh judgment? Listen to this.

Mrs Margaret Clark thought the worst was over two years ago when she was asked to pay £6,000 to cover part of the huge losses by her Lloyd's... syndicate. This summer she had to find another £27,000. "All I have now is my jewellery, clothes and furniture. I have no other way of raising the money... there are hundreds of others like her, as Lloyd's pretends to announce its first overall losses for more than 20 years, amid allegations of mismanagement, fraud, incompetence, negligence and a general lack of sufficient regulatory control.

Yet Mr Coleridge seems to think that the first Lloyd's overall loss in 20 years is something to boast about, when in his reply to me he said: "He makes no reference to the fact that the 1988 underwriting year is the first year of loss which Lloyd's has suffered since 1967..."

But Lloyd's is guilty on yet another count. Hear Mr Cook again:

A lot of people should never have become members, but were encouraged to do so by smartly dressed young men who did what Lloyd's always do, which is to trade on the idea that tomorrow will be better than today.



You can practically hear the smartly dressed young man who conned a woman name into the quicksand: "I signed an affidavit pledging everything I had," she said, "but I was also assured that nothing like this would ever happen to me." Well, it has happened to her; I dare say that she did not notice what kind of suit was worn by the rather older man who has just demanded £70,000 as her slice of the syndicate's sum.

Oh, but let no one think that Lloyd's is hard-hearted as well as incompetent: in some cases, we learn, people with insufficient assets are allowed to remain in their homes until death, at which time ownership of the house passes to Lloyd's.

A catalogue of ruin has been compiled: Major Gomme-Duncan has had to stump up £200,000, done by selling his house and all his land; he does not yet know how much more will be demanded, let alone how he will find it. Earl Alexander has likewise no idea how deep he is sunk; it might be £100,000 or more — and he has no

country house to sell. A farmer in Cumbria was conducted into a syndicate the next day it turned out to be somewhat dodgy, and he is now penniless. A secretary was given, as a retirement gift, a name investment; it has ruined her utterly.

Here again is the Lloyd's spokesman who was so frank about Lloyd's capacity:

There are now people who are members of Lloyd's who should never have been allowed in, with hindsight. They were ill-advised to put their money in a high-risk institution.

Sweet are the uses of hindsight, but foresight seems to have been misled at Lloyd's. ("They were ill-advised", well, who they were ill-advised? As Mr Tom Benyon, former MP and chairman of the Association of Lloyd's Members, puts it: "Lloyd's was once the bastion of respectability and honourability. A lot of names were sucked in because of that reputation and they trusted the people who got them in. Now we have discovered that certain aspects of Lloyd's stunk.")

The stink, I repeat, is of complacency. Mr Coleridge has sent to all Lloyd's names a letter in which he declares that what they have been hearing about Lloyd's is "excessively alarmed"; those who have been ruined, or face ruin, must be greatly comforted by this news.

Mr Coleridge also says that he is "vigorously pursuing all avenues", down one of which avenues is some kind of tax concession, plainly inadequate to help relieve the victims of the Lloyd's catastrophe.

Earl Alexander (already £80,000 in the hole) sums up. After saying that Mr Coleridge's letter was "absurd and insulting", he asks the key question: "Why can't anyone at Lloyd's stand up and admit their mistakes? Someone needs to take responsibility for this murky business."

Well, there's a handsome invitation, I must say. But if Lloyd's runs on the principle that "the buck stops here", it falls to Mr Coleridge himself to tell us precisely why no one at Lloyd's can stand up and admit their mistakes, and in addition to take responsibility for this murky business. Do I hear the Lutine Bell tolling for him?

Letters, page 15

...and moreover

## MATTHEW PARRIS

How would you know a chap's sweater was from Arran? I'm not saying you would not: just trying to picture circumstances which would inspire the confidence of the Hartlepool Mail...

"Sitting at home bundled into an Arran-knit sweater with bright green casual shoes" (this chap's pushy image) "falls apart".

That is easily the most hard-hitting paragraph in a thousand-word profile the Mail has just published. For a local paper, it takes what is the impertinent step of admitting that criticism exists before countering it with praise. And the reference to bright green casual shoes is a touch risky, or not? No way to thank a politician who has been so good as to see you in his home, rather than send a press release to print, after the habit of most of Britain's local papers.

The sweater puzzles me. How did Carol Malia, the chief reporter, know? Did she walk into the "home setup in Hutton Avenue" where the object of her merciless interrogation "admits to being very comfortable" ("okay, game's up, I admit it: I'm very comfortable") and say to him "cosily tucked up in his own Hartlepool home"? "Is that an Arran sweater into which you're bundled with your bright green casual shoes, Mr Mandelson?"

Or did he volunteer it? "I do want you to know, Carol, that this is an Arran sweater into which I'm bundled, cosily tucked up as I am in my own Hartlepool home in which I shall admit, if you press me, to being very comfortable." And was this

before or after those charming poses of Mr Mandelson gingerly holding a hoe ("a spell in the garden gives him time to think about his future") and, indoors reading a paper: "Peter Mandelson relaxes with a cuppa and the Mail"? What a marvel he was so relaxed? Was this not bare-knuckled investigative journalism he was facing? As Malia says, "he must have wondered what was in store" as, three years ago, he came "over the brow of the hill... sitting in the driving seat caught his first glimpse of Hartlepool". We shudder at the prospect: surely it was the moment when Hartlepool caught its first glimpse of Mr Mandelson?

But Malia does the glimpsing now, and the first thing she glimpses, "standing proudly," is "a moving in gift from Glenys". I suppose you know when something is a gift from Glenys, there's simply no need to be told. It was "a delicate piece of pottery she gave him while speaking the words 'I'll give you a better one when I come up'".

Gosh, I was about to say (but the Mail says it for me) that "his familiarity and standing with the Kinnocks is evident enough". For who can doubt (and if they dare, we have the Mail to protest) that "he has been hailed a media guru and maestro of the Labour Party's red rose image". Why, he has just been "oiling the campaign wheels which helped topple the Conservatives' second safest seat in Wales".

Still in the driver's seat, our guru, maestro and lubricator of the wheels which topple, has

been "putting down his roots in the town, catapulted into the limelight from a most unlikely vantage point". What gymnasium? No wonder "curious rivals" have been whipped into a frenzy over the "political genius" ("Oops! a slip-up there, why the inverted commas?") "Who has come to rest here."

Rest? Thank goodness, or thank Mr Mandelson, that Malia puts this right in paragraph seven, assuring us that "all his attention is focused on fighting to be the town's next MP". And the closing thought in this essay in cool scrutiny is that Mr Mandelson has "promised to see it through and work his way through the corridors of power towards a ministerial post" — how selfless can a promise get? — "all the time holding Hartlepool's case close at heart".

Mr Mandelson, who is a dear friend, will know we share with him the sentiment that, for the very last of a thousand words, describing his special genius, you wanted to pick one which sums up everything you ever wanted to say about him, then, popping from your lips almost before you had time to think, would be the word "heart". Thank you, Carol Malia, thank you, the Hartlepool Mail, thank you from all of us down in London, from Neil and Glenys, and everyone at Walworth Road, and John Underwood too, for saying it for us. For, as Mr Mandelson is quoted: "Tories have their friends in the media".

Friendship from the media. Oh shameful thought, oh lucky, lucky Tories!

## That's strife in Smith Square

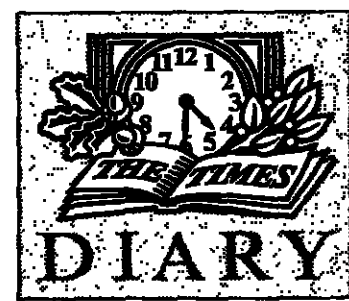
It's the damaging internal dispute which led to the resignation of John Underwood as Labour's communications director about to be mirrored in the Conservative party? For there is evidence of increasing tension within the Tories' own press and broadcasting unit since Shaun Woodward, formerly of the BBC's *That's Life* programme, became communications director at a reported £50,000 a year.

Woodward's management style has won him few friends at Smith Square. Harvey Thomas, who has terminated the organisation of party conferences, has left, as has Fiona Souness, the design manager.

However, the reported tension between Woodward and Christine Wall, head of news at Smith Square, is causing most concern. Wall, who worked in the press office at Downing Street under Sir Bernard Ingham, was picked by Mrs Thatcher to upgrade the party's press operation before the last election.

Many of the difficulties are said to stem from Woodward's alleged unwillingness to communicate and his apparent disdain for the old regime. He has not helped matters by ordering Wall's staff to prepare projects without telling her. One Smith Square source says: "Not only is Christine intensely loyal to the party, she is one of the few left at Central Office who has worked in an election. She would be a terrible loss... She is not looking for work, but if the right offer came up her friends feel she will be tempted."

Mrs Thatcher would jump at a chance of hiring Wall for the Thatcher Foundation. Wall accompanied her to Washington earlier this year. She would also be welcome in the public affairs department of many large companies.



As Soviet troops leave eastern Europe, what should be done with the empty nuclear missile silos they are leaving behind? The answer at the Coaxar base in Hungary is to grow mushrooms in them — for export to Germany. Most appropriate, really, as that is where the missiles formerly housed there were pointed.

## Step into the past

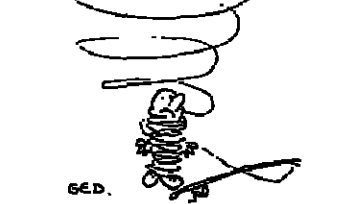
Could the Kirov Opera and Kirov Ballet soon be no more? Music lovers need not fear: their artistic talent is not under threat but the name "Kirov" could go the way of the little-lamented Leningrad. The company takes its name from Sergei Kirov, the obscure revolutionary figure who was Communist party secretary in Leningrad and assassinated in 1934. Steps are now afoot to shed the revolutionary tag in favour of a pre-Bolshevik name.

In the 18th century the companies were known as the Imperial Ballet and the Imperial Opera, probably not acceptable options, even given the pace of change in the Soviet Union. The building which housed them, however, was known as the Mariinsky Theatre, before being renamed the State Academic Theatre in 1917. A return to the name of Mariinsky seems likely, John Falkner, the Kirov's London agent, says: "For the first time posters include both the Mariinsky and Kirov names."

## Flights of fear

Anyone who manages to stay to the end of *The Silence of the Lambs*, the thriller film, may be surprised by one title in the credits: moth grinder. Raymond A. Mendez, the grinder, is the man responsible for the appearance of the highly trained moths left in the throats of the victims of Jame Gumb, the killer.

Mendez, who lives in New York with his wife and a colony of ants he started on a window ledge in 1972, has trained canaries, put a zipper on an egg and designed a 20ft robot snake. But it is



his work with the moths, which adorn publicity posters for the film starring Anthony Hopkins and Jodie Foster, which has given him the most satisfaction.

To transform them into the unsung stars of the film he painted skull-and-crossbone markings on false fingernails and glued them on to each moth's back. He also reveals why the moths flew to order. "First we gave them CO<sub>2</sub>", he says. "We then connected them to a fishing rod and controlled them off camera. That way we got them to hover and land."

Channel 4 has unwittingly found itself a team of budding new film directors: its security guards at the

Charlotte Street head office. The guards have become adept at the coaching and instructing of timid viewers, who turn up to air their thoughts in the company's Videobox.

## Charity at home?

Fierce rivalry is evident at Salisbury House, near Salisbury, home of Lord and Lady Tryon. He is chairman of the Salisbury Cathedral Spire Trust, while his wife, Dame, performs a similar role for Sane, the schizophrenia charity. Lady Tryon says: "We are jealous of each other's benefactors and sponsors. We are definitely not above stealing the other's backers."

At the weekend she enviously eyed the well-heeled patrons of the Spire Appeal at a reception at Ted Heath's house, after a gala concert he conducted in Salisbury Cathedral. However, her husband took a relaxed view. "We have collected more than £5 million and are in sight of our target of £6.5 million."

His next project, in September, is to shatter the peace of the cathedral close by gathering 10,000 fans to hear Phil Collins and Plácido Domingo, among others. The concert is the brainchild of the Prince of Wales and should put the appeal in sight of its target. "But don't say 'too loud'", says Lord Tryon. "We don't want people to get complacent — or give their money to my wife's charity instead."

Today Britain's only statue of Sherlock Holmes is unveiled in Edinburgh, almost 100 years to the day that the first Holmes mystery appeared in print. Stanley Holmes Reference Library, discovered the story, *A Scandal in Bohemia*, appeared in *The Strand Magazine* in June 1891. Pure coincidence according to the Federation of Master Builders, which commissioned the statue, in the city of Holmes' birth.





## TRADE, NOT AID

The Group of Seven, whose finance ministers and central bankers met in London yesterday, is the most exclusive club in the world. It co-ordinates policy in hyper-sensitive areas, such as exchange rates and interest rates. It is effective only in so far as it can command unanimity. More even than the European Community, this club represents capitalism incarnate. It is the enemy of everything Lenin and his successors stood for. The Soviet Union has yet to join less exclusive western clubs, but with his usual boldness, President Mikhail Gorbachev has bypassed all these and is knocking at the G7's door. Japan at least is inclined to blackball the intruder.

Yesterday the G7 told Moscow it would have to carry out "sustained" economic reform first. To reorganise the Soviet economy on lines that might win approval from the G7 would take it inside out. President Gorbachev has promised something not far short of that in exchange for an invitation to the London summit of G7 heads of government in three weeks' time. Whether he can deliver is another matter. Yesterday's meeting had to consider whether to recommend to the heads of government that Mr Gorbachev should be sent home to think again, or whether rejection might undermine his authority.

They appear to have concluded that the latter danger is not acute. Solidarity for the Kremlin's only credible figurehead does not imply that he should be given all that he asks. President Bush spent a fruitful session last week with Boris Yeltsin, who emphatically declined to ask for aid. None of the G7 governments, with the exception of the Germans, thinks the "grand bargain" scheme proposed by Mr Gorbachev's aide Grigor Yavlinsky and the boffins of Harvard is necessarily good value. The sum suggested, \$250 billion, makes Marshall aid look mean in comparison.

Even if several G7 members were not grappling with their own recessions, the unsecured promises now being made on the Soviet side would excite their suspicions. The sharp exchanges in the Supreme Soviet last Friday showed that Mr Gorbachev is far from achieving a domestic consensus for the market reforms he so cavalierly promises his G7 interlocutors. The Japanese, who rightly suspect that the North Americans and Europeans have Tokyo in mind when they

talk of gestures to keep reform alive in the Kremlin, can point to Mr Gorbachev's recent failure to offer them the return of the Kurile Islands in exchange for investment.

The Soviet economy is presently plumb-ing new depths of inefficiency as the policy conflict at the top paralyses the lower strata of administration. There are things that the G7 can do to help. Washington could (and probably should) grant most favoured nation status to promote trade. The G7 ministers yesterday recommended that the IMF should give Moscow "associate" membership. Moscow needs this urgently. But technical assistance is not controversial. Aid, however it may be dressed up, is it will remain so. The reluctance of the G7 gnomes to pour credits and subsidies into the bankrupt Soviet economy does not arise only from doubts about whether their money would be wisely invested. Democratic governments must subordinate their generous impulses to domestic scrutiny.

The goodwill of western electorates towards the post-Communist countries is not infinite. Immigration, ethnic conflicts and sheer boredom may undermine support for any concerted effort on their behalf. There will be only one chance to help the Soviet nations on a grand scale, and there is now real doubt about whether Mr Gorbachev would be the right recipient. Competition for funds has intensified between the new democracies of Eastern Europe, which have taken the plunge and are now treading water, and the Soviet Union, still on the brink.

At all costs, the G7 members must avoid charges of hypocrisy. The Gatt talks on which the prosperity of so many nations depends have stalled. The possibility of a new phase of protectionism is real. To proclaim the virtues of open markets to the Russians is right, but the West must first practise what it preaches. Free trade should benefit the weak Soviet economies no less than the strong Atlantic and Pacific ones.

The most useful contribution that the West could make at the G7 summit would be to resolve the dispute over agriculture which has left Gatt dead in the water. That would show the Soviet peoples, who are now a political factor as never before, that the European Community, North America and Japan are not expecting them to make sacrifices which they themselves disdain.

## TERMS OF OFFICE

Chris Patten, the chairman of the Conservative party, is a fastidious man. That is not the ideal qualification for a job that largely consists of abusing one's opponents. Mr Patten yesterday flirted with an idea that might mean his spending less time on the stump: the introduction, into Britain, of the fixed term parliament. Instead of the prime minister choosing the time to go to the polls, the general election would be held on a fixed date every so many years.

The idea has particular appeal this year. Party politics has been feverish since before Christmas. John Major would have liked to have gone to the country this month. The opinion polls did not allow it. He would love to go in the autumn, to avoid a winter of fractiousness over Europe. Assuming that yesterday's MORI poll giving the Tories a 1 per cent lead proves a flash in the pan, the polls will probably prevent that too. By the time the vote takes place, therefore, the country is likely to have been subjected to eighteen months of electioneering. It is unsurprising that another recent poll showed that the public favoured fixed terms by a majority of more than two to one.

The case is often advanced on economic grounds. Mr Patten yesterday argued in favour of weakening the relationship between the economic and political cycles. The movable election, it is suggested, tempts the Chancellor to seek to manoeuvre the economic variables into a favourable configuration to match a political timetable set by the prime minister. Such shenanigans can cost the country dear.

But the fixed term would by no means eliminate the scope for manipulation. The Chancellor would merely aim to make things look good on the fixed date. Indeed, it could even make matters worse. At the moment, if the needs of the economy and the government's need to be popular should conflict, the election can be postponed while

harsh economic medicine is given time to work. With a fixed term, the political timetable would come first.

In any case, as Norman Lamont pointed out yesterday, the modern Chancellor has the financial markets breathing down his neck. He has less room for fiddling than did past chancellors like Butler or Maundling, though Nigel Lawson helped the Tories to win in 1987 with a pre-election boom.

The most substantial argument against fixed term parliaments is constitutional. Since there has to be a government, and that government has to command a majority in the House of Commons, the fixed term is literally unenforceable. A government whose convenience was suited by going early to the country would simply arrange for its own supporters to vote it down in parliament. This consequence is recognised beyond Britain. Among those countries which do not practice a separation of the legislature from the executive, few have an absolutely fixed term. In Germany, France, Austria and Ireland the head of state may call an early election, should the government lose its majority.

In Britain, such a decision could hardly be left to the monarch. To do so would embroil the Crown in the most political of decisions. Ministers would have to advise. A system whereby parliament had a fixed term except when ministers decided otherwise would not be so very different from the present one.

There is, however, a more evolutionary approach. The term of parliament might be shortened, from five years to four. The government would of course be free to go to the country after two years, or three; but few would choose to cast the seals of ministerial office so swiftly into electoral hazard. The term would thus be flexible in theory, but generally fixed in practice. That would be a compromise, but one in keeping with the virtues of the unwritten constitution.

## HELLO TO A GOLDEN PAST

The British, as social scientists have always known, reveal their true nature most clearly while at play. What better social laboratory than Oxford last weekend, where half a dozen colleges held balls, to study the hopes and aspirations of a new generation? For a few hours the gilded youth of Oxford drifted back into a fantasy world, constructed partly from Max Beerbohm's *Zuleika Dobson* but probably owing a great deal more to teenage viewing of *Brideshead Revisited*. Despite hard times — lack of jobs or grants, financially pressed parents — this generation of students has decided to turn the clock back, dress up to the nines and forget pedestrian reality.

The revival of the Oxford balls comes as this summer's graduates face a grim job market. At Magdalen, where the £150 tickets sold out in days, fewer than half the graduates in Politics, Philosophy and Economics have offers of jobs. In other subjects, particularly the natural sciences, the prospects are even more dismal. In just five years or so the "golden hells" which bright graduates could once expect to receive from city firms have been forgotten. Employers are laying off in the 1990s the people they lured in the 1980s. Yet, just as

audiences flocked to escapist films during the great slump, so Oxford's young today play at being Zuleika or Sebastian Flyte.

Oxford's triumph is that its students beneath their ready cynicism wish to believe every myth about the place. Although more than half its undergraduates come from state schools, they were determined, for the balls at least, to dress and behave like toffs. Labourers' sons struggled manfully with studs and dress shirts, while pools checkers' daughters donned silk stockings and borrowed pearls. The *Guardian* sneered last week at the "creeping classlessness" of Cambridge's May balls, but at Oxford there was a determination that for one night at least everyone could play the part of the Princess or Prince Charming.

The mood of these bright young things appears very different from the brash, upwardly mobile, money conscious graduates of the past decade. Social scientists could have recorded many conversations filled with doubt about the future, but depressed these students are not. On the evidence of the balls the new generation will be serious, well-mannered and a little old-fashioned.

## Whose finger on nuclear triggers?

From Lord Williams of Elvel

Sir, It became clear during last week's Lords debate on the Atomic Weapons Establishment bill that the government was preparing to hand over to a private contractor the job of producing our nuclear warheads — in particular, of course, those for the Trident programme — and to hand over to the contractor responsibility for "the development, production or maintenance of nuclear devices" and for "research into such devices or their effects".

Worse, it also became clear that the government was prepared not just to hand over those responsibilities but to consider partial, or apparently even majority, foreign ownership of the UK prime contractor designated for the task.

"I wish", the minister, Lord Arran, said, when pressed (*Hansard*, June 14, col 1313), "to make two points. The key point is that the company must be able to meet our security requirements. Secondly, we shall not rule out any company on grounds of nationality in itself".

In other words, a German, French, American or, indeed, Japanese company will be able, provided it meets the appropriate security tests, to hold shares in the prime contractor, and thus not only gain access to the designs and production methods of our nuclear warheads but, equally importantly, influence the programme of research and development into future warhead designs for our strategic deterrent.

Is this really what we want? If not, should not somebody (apart from me and my colleagues in the House of Lords) say so?

Yours faithfully,  
WILLIAMS OF ELVEL,  
House of Lords,  
June 17.

## Child-abuse enquiry

From the Chairman of the British Association of Social Workers

Sir, The Scottish Office and the Orkney child-abuse enquiry face a number of difficulties in the wake of the decisive judgment following the appeal by the Reporter to the children's panel (report, June 13).

The outcome of the legal processes is that there is no finding of fact on the central allegations. Nobody has heard the social work case — no evidence was called. In the wake of Sheriff Kellie's judgment (report, April 15), which contributed significantly to the unprecedented media outcry, the Reporter withdrew the proceedings and the children returned home. There seems no likelihood of renewed proceedings, whatever the original concern.

The enquiry is not a substitute court or children's hearing and therefore cannot enquire into the central facts of the matter, just as the Cleveland enquiry did not comment on the allegations of sexual abuse in the individual cases.

Presumably the enquiry can review the procedures and practices of the police, social work department and other agencies. It must comment on the role of the media in influencing the due process of law in child-care matters. Sadly, matters of fact will inevitably remain unresolved.

Yours sincerely,  
KATE PRYDE, Chairman,  
British Association of Social Workers,  
16 Kent Street,  
Birmingham 5.

## First woman pilot

From Mrs Jill Robinson

Sir, You reported (June 15) that Flight Lieutenant Julie Gibson had become the first woman to receive her wings as an RAF pilot. Whilst every congratulatory message must be accorded to her, it is worthy of note that my mother, Flying Officer Jackie Moggridge, received her RAF wings as a volunteer reservist, in 1953. In the same year she received the Coronation Medal.

Prior to this she held the distinction of being awarded the King's Commendation for Valuable Services in the Air, for having ferried more aircraft during the war than any other pilot, man or woman.

Later she ferried Spitfires to the Far East, after which she became an airline captain with Channel Airways, flying passengers on scheduled services.

Yours faithfully,  
JILL ROBINSON,  
The Old Forge,  
Combe Florey, Somerset.

## Mysteries of morris

From Mr David Terry

Sir, I read with interest the correspondence (June 8, 15) on the mysterious origins of the morris dance. I would like to propose that the Spanish *morisco* dance was imported to the court of Europe and then assimilated into folk tradition, perhaps superseding the fool's dance.

The name "morris" does not appear as a description of our folk dance before the sixteenth century, but the dance probably did exist at an earlier date in our folk culture. The Spanish *morisco* appears to have been known at least as early as the fourteenth century. Petrarch, for example, was reported as dancing a *morisco* in 1341 to amuse the court ladies, while John of Gaunt was reputed to have brought the dance to England following his visit to Pedro the Cruel of Spain in about 1363.

There is some credence in believing that the morris is a development of the fool's dance which was in decline in the fifteenth century; both

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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## Britain and Japan: the links and rifts

From Sir Charles Villiers

Sir, Your correspondents, Dennis Coward and Julian Malins (June 18), perceptively refer to deep contrasts between Japan and Britain. There is, however, now emerging in the industrial field an Anglo-Japanese culture in which "a bit of both" is clearly visible.

Nearly 1,000 Japanese firms are now established in Britain. I have recently visited several large, small and medium-sized companies, some fully Japanese-owned, some partly owned, and some British companies just trying out the Japanese way. They are generally successful and some are taking on more people (despite the recession). All whom I spoke to said they were happier than in their previous jobs. All the managers said that the British workforce was "absolutely first-class" (although coming from socially-deprived areas).

The common factors in all these cases are, first, the transfer of maximum responsibility to the place where the value is added (i.e., to the shop or office floor) and a strong sense of mutual obligation; secondly, insistence on total quality control, so no re-work; thirdly, bonuses for all on meeting production targets; and fourthly, technical training for all.

I saw no sign of lifetime employment or of promotion by seniority, nor of company costs or physical perks or, indeed, of company houses, although medical care was much in evidence. They call this "lean production" and it is taking the place of conventional mass production. The philosophy is Japanese, but the practical application is British.

Yours truly,  
CHARLES VILLIERS,  
Blacknest House,  
Sunninghill, Berkshire.

From the Chairman of the Council of The Japan Society

Sir, The letters from Mr Coward and Mr Malins underline the extent of the ignorance and prejudices which still exist in Britain about Japan.

## Federal roots

From the Director of the European Movement

Sir, Philip Allott (June 21), in trying to find arguments against a federal Europe, makes a series of assumptions about the characteristics of such a union which are quite false. The objective is not to build a "supreme state-machine". On the contrary, a federal union would be based on the principle that power is exercised at the most appropriate level — with a bias towards the lowest levels — and that wherever it is exercised it is done so democratically.

Nor is there any evidence to suggest that a federal Europe would be "an exclusive, inward-looking club" (leader, June 19). On the contrary, it would be open to all the nations of Europe wishing to join who can meet the necessary democratic and economic criteria. The European Community has doubled in size since its foundation and both

Dennis Coward does not seem to have noted the extent of the labour shortage in Japan or of immigration into Japan which may ease that shortage. Nor does he take account of the widespread efforts being made in Japan to escape from insularity and become more international. Both Japan and Britain have some way to go before they can claim to be truly internationalised.

Most of Mr Malin's nine points are disputable. As the Opportunity Japan Campaign launched three years ago by the British Overseas Trade Board showed, the Japanese market is now generally an open one.

The Bank of Japan is not wholly independent. Japanese defence expenditure in 1990 of \$28 billion is only some \$5 billion less than ours. There is an effective government social welfare system in Japan. The Japanese yen is not now kept "artificially" low. The Japanese are not "waging economic war". Japan does not "eschew overseas altruism": on the contrary, it is now the world's largest single aid donor.

The Japan Society (not the Anglo-Japanese Friendship Society, as Mr Malins calls us) is an educational charity whose objective is to contribute to better understanding of Japan in Britain. Our centenary will be celebrated this year by a major Japanese festival beginning on September 16 which will, we hope, help to inform British people about modern Japan, its traditions and its culture.

Various aspects of Japanese policies and actions (like British policies and actions) can, of course, be criticised; but it is essential to get the facts straight and put them in a fair perspective.

Yours faithfully,  
HUGH CORTAZZI,  
Chairman,  
The Japan Society,  
Room 331,  
162/168 Regent Street, W1.

Effa and the central European countries have indicated they wish to join. They will be welcome.

It is also a wrong to suppose, as Douglas Eden's letter suggests (June 21) that there is conflict between support for European union and for the wider Atlantic community. The European Community has always been strong in its support for a close relationship with the United States. This will not change in a closer union.

On July 4, 1962, President John F. Kennedy gave an address entitled "A declaration of interdependence" in which he hailed the creation of a united Europe and said that this union would not be a rival but a partner. He was right.

Yours faithfully,  
PETER LUFF, Director,  
The European Movement,  
Europe House,  
1 Whitehall Place, SW1,  
June 21.

## Duty-free sales

From the Managing Director of the Channel Tunnel

Sir, The claim by the vice-chairman of the Duty-Free Confederation (June 19) that many economic benefits are generated by duty-free concessions at our ports is not plausible. What is true is that some producers benefit from such concessions, and that the super-profits made possible go in part to reducing fares, so that travellers do not pay for the resources they use.

British Rail is investing over £1 billion of public money, so that when the Channel tunnel opens attractive train services can be offered from London to Paris and Brussels. Ministers have made it clear repeatedly that there can be no question of allowing duty-free concessions for rail travel. The consequence of maintaining this state aid for our competitors will be to reduce the return on the public investment.

We do not ask to be allowed duty-free concessions. We want to earn profits by offering a high-quality service in fair competition. For travel within the single market, this curious inherited concession for some travellers and not others should cease.

Yours faithfully,  
JOHN PALMER,  
Managing Director, Channel Tunnel,  
British Rail,  
Waterloo Station, SE1,  
June 19.

Morris dancing became popular in this country in the early sixteenth century. Both Henry VII and James IV of Scotland had morris dancers at their courts from time to time and by 1521 the Drapers Company of London included them in their mid-summer pageant.

Yours sincerely,  
DAVID TERRY,  
34 Windmill Hill,  
Ruislip, Middlesex.

From the Reverend R. J. Hills

Sir, When dancing with the Cambridge Morris Men in the early 1930s I understood that the bells on my shins were to keep the devil at bay — like the bells on the hem of Aaron's ephod, thought to protect him from demonic attack when he entered or left the holy place "that he die not" (Exodus 28:33-35).

Our bells protected us from the dire effects of the demon drink necessary after our exertions.

Yours truly,  
JONATHAN HILLS,  
19 Church Way, Ilfley, Oxford.

## EC's 'catch-all' hold on press

From the Head of Corporate Affairs, Channel Four, and others

Sir, We welcome the invitation from Lord Ardwick and others (June 19) to start a debate on the role of European Community law in regulating the press.

The draft data protection directive which is currently moving through the European legislative process is an interesting example of the problems the media face. As broadcasters we are particularly concerned about the directive's likely impact on our journalistic activities.

By attempting to regulate everyday uses of personal data, rather than concentrating on preventing misuse as does the Council of Europe Convention and current UK law, it catches all journalism within its scope. For example, every newsroom file would have to be open to inspection, it would be impossible to protect the anonymity of sources and all subjects of investigative journalism would have to give their permission before the information held on them could be processed.

The European Commission's solution to this problem is to allow each individual member state to grant a derogation. This seems to us unsatisfactory, both for the reasons outlined by Lord Ardwick — it conflicts with traditional UK practice and could set an unfortunate precedent — but also because there is little guidance in the directive on how far such derogations should extend.

Striking a balance between the individual's right of privacy and the freedom of the press is a delicate business. Negotiating derogations point by point after the directive has become Community law runs a severe risk of altering that balance unfavourably and curtailing press and media freedom.

In the circumstances, and on the assumption that the entire thrust of the directive is unlikely to be altered, we feel it is important that media stakeholders held for any journalistic purposes the press and broadcasting are exempt from the directive.

Yours faithfully,  
CAROLINE THOMSON, Head of Corporate Affairs, Channel Four,  
GARETH ROSCOE  
(Legal Adviser, BBC),  
KATHRYN FULTON  
(Legal Adviser, ITV Association),  
GLYN MATHIAS  
(Controller, Public Affairs, ITN),  
Channel Four Television,  
60 Charlotte Street, W1,  
June 21.

## Model assets

From Mr Peter Osborne

Sir, You and Joseph Williams ("Drawn from a classical model", Arts, June 17) will be delighted to know that there is life in the life model yet. In her mature, late 20th-century role she has indeed a richer and fuller life than ever.

All of the 400 full-time art and design students here work from the model. The range of analytical approaches applied is seen as the bedrock of their education. Just as Hogarth's engraving, "The Analysis of Beauty" shows a variety of associated thoughts, so the life model allows our students to explore three-dimensional qualities, structure, tone, colour, mark, movement and articulation, and other concepts, and allows them to develop thought, skill and expression.

The life model's warm interest in students and their work often reflects an awareness of her importance to their fuller education.

Yours faithfully,  
PETER OSBORNE (Dean),  
Faculty of Creative Arts,  
Blackburn College,  
Fellside Street,  
Blackburn, Lancashire,  
June 18.

From Professor Bryan Kneale, RA

Sir, I take exception to the picture created in Joseph Williams's article of the model as a depressed and shame-faced, second-rate citizen. As one who employs some of the brightest professional models, I find them not only wonderful to work with but, by their vitality and interest in the work, as much a part of the creative process as the artist involved.

Since the opening of this studio last January, in response to student demands, literally hundreds of drawings have been created. In some cases, students have exploded into a whole new field of creative energy. I look forward enormously to seeing The Artist's Model exhibition at Kenwood House.

Yours faithfully,  
BRYAN KNEALE,  
The Rowney Studio,  
The Royal College of Art,  
Kensington Gore, SW7,  
June 17.

## Summer not icumen in

From Mr Brian H. Taylor

Sir, The longest day has come and gone and we still wait for summer. Could any of your readers offer some historical, literary or even anecdotal consolation as we move towards winter again? We need it.

Yours faithfully,  
BRIAN H. TAYLOR,  
Sylvestone, Ashley Park Road,  
Walton-on-Thames, Surrey,  
June 22.

Letters to the editor should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number — (071 782 5046).



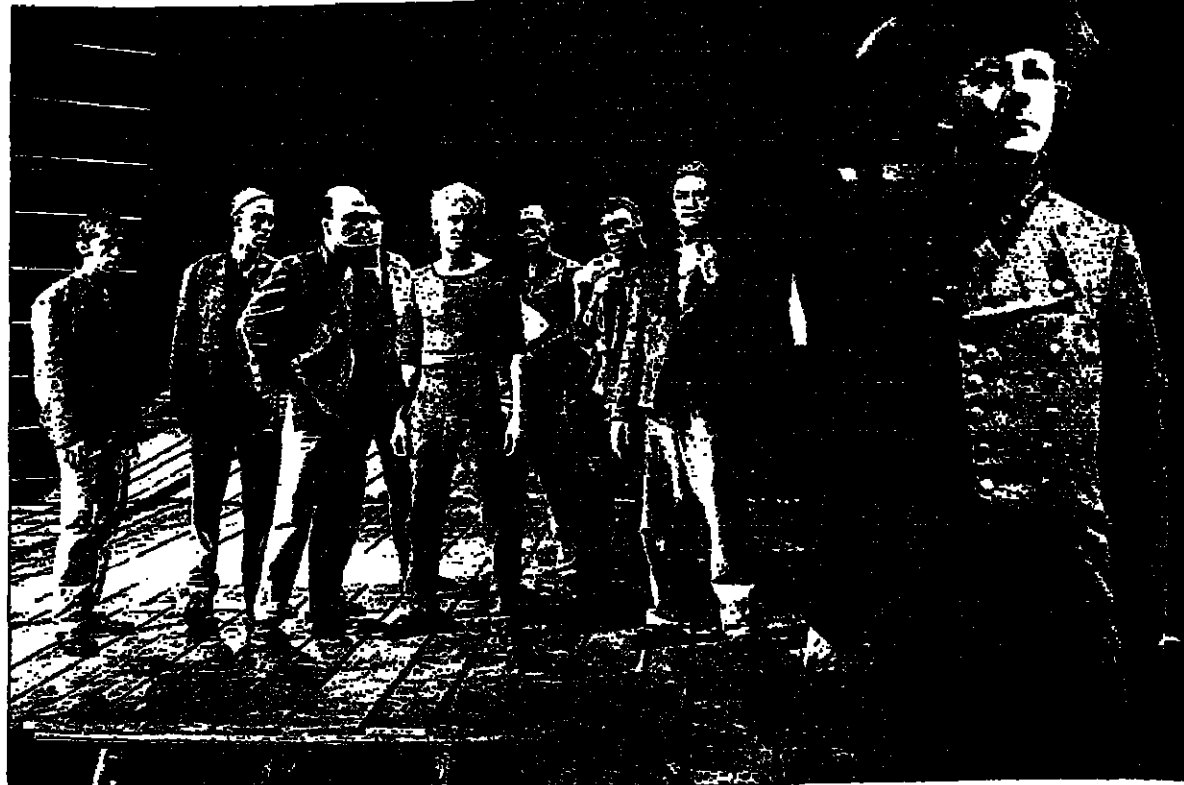








# Angel consigned to shadows



Resonant: Stephen Petcher (right) as Claggart with the crew, including Richard Dormer (blond, centre) as Budd

## THEATRE

### Billy Budd

#### Crucible, Sheffield

FOLLOWING a play with 15 women and no men (*The Good Sisters*) this theatre almost precisely redresses the balance with a cast of no women and 14 men. Tim Supple and David Holman frame Melville's story with a prologue and epilogue set in Portsmouth Dock, where the ghosts of seven seamen watch a boy from a time long after their own deaths puzzle over the initials cut into a great spar.

These two scenes, and particularly the first, where we can only guess at the reason the spar has such significance, communicate an atmosphere of sorrow charged with wonder. Strains from Fauré's Requiem add to the solemnity of the episode but without the music there would remain a tension that the main body of the story, despite its status of minor classic and semi-Christian parable, never quite develops.

Perhaps the closest that the scenes aboard *HMS Indomitable* come to achieving this holy fear is when Billy and his fellow seamen are below decks listening to the unburied footsteps of Claggart, the master-at-arms, pacing the planks above them. The sounds mark the approach of fate, or envy, or evil, knocking at the ship where Billy Budd sprang happily by the ship's nature, his skill among the topsails and his angelic blond hair. "Struck by an angel of God," cries Captain Vere, when Billy, rendered dumb by his stammer, falls Claggart with a blow. "But the angel must hang."

Ashley Martin-Davis and Jon Morrell have designed an impressive

spread of deck that reaches far into the shadows at the rear of the stage and projects forward into the audience, its spars upward with mast and rope into the flies, and gives a glimpse of the men's berths below. Charlie Edwards' lighting contributes to the realism with effects of lamp light shining up through the hatches, or moonlight picking out faces in the dark.

The acting is unshowy and assured: Stephen Petcher a tight, almost dainty

Claggart, speaking in a voice at once resonant and dead, Richard Dormer makes plain the anguish of Lt Radcliffe, and to Robert Langdon Lloyd falls the task of presenting Vere's case for justice short of humanity.

Yet no matter how well the tale is told it remains a deeply flawed work, and a dramatised version, even without Britten's music slurring around, exposes the absurd shifts Melville introduces to trap his hero.

Vere is the truly corrupted man, unable to question authority and only differing in the numbers of his crimes from a Stalinist hatchet-man. Melville tries to give his strained contrivances the quality of myth and Tim Supple's direction faithfully follows him. Though successfully marshalling his bluejackets into pleasing tableaux he naturally cannot make the tale self ring true.

JEREMY KINGSTON

## NEW RELEASES

**LA CAPTIVE DU DESERT** (PG): Raymond Depardon's celebratory study of a European woman held hostage by an African tribe. Beautiful to behold, but agonising. Rnair (071-837 8402).

**CLASS ACTION** (PG): Gene Hackman and Mary Elizabeth Mastrantonio as father and daughter fighting opposite sides of a lawsuit. Fine acting, excellent script. Director, Michael Apted. Camden Parkway (071-837 7004) Plaza (071-407 9558) Whiteleys (071-732 3303/3304).

**KING OF NEW YORK** (18): Christopher Walken as a ruthless hoodlum with style. Energetic thriller that finally gets out of hand; director, Abel Ferrara. Camden Parkway (071-837 7004) Plaza (071-407 9558) Whiteleys (071-732 3303/3304).

**NOT WITHOUT MY DAUGHTER** (12): Sally Field as an all-American wife trying to escape the Ayatollah's Iran. Genuinely dramatic, but overdone. With Alfred Molina; director, Brian Gibson. Camden Parkway (071-837 7004) Plaza (071-407 9558) Whiteleys (071-732 3303/3304).

**THE POPE MUST DIE** (12): Tired, mid-comedy from the Comic Strip troupe, with Robbie Coltrane as an honest but slightly mad policeman. With Billy Connolly; director, Peter Richardson. Camden Parkway (071-837 7004) Plaza (071-407 9558) Whiteleys (071-732 3303/3304).

**RIFT-HAFT** (18): Mysterious, scarily "slow of film" portrait of a building-site crew from director Ken Loach. Camden Parkway (071-837 7004) Plaza (071-407 9558) Whiteleys (071-732 3303/3304).

**ALL FOR LOVE** (PG): Anthony and Christine: a tale of a woman's love and a man's obsession. Camden Parkway (071-837 7004) Plaza (071-407 9558) Whiteleys (071-732 3303/3304).

**THE CARTEASIER** (PG): A farce in three acts, a tale of a man's love and a woman's obsession. Camden Parkway (071-837 7004) Plaza (071-407 9558) Whiteleys (071-732 3303/3304).

**CARMEN JONES** (PG): A musical production of the famous opera. Camden Parkway (071-837 7004) Plaza (071-407 9558) Whiteleys (071-732 3303/3304).

**DANCING AT LUGHNASSA** (PG): A musical production of the famous opera. Camden Parkway (071-837 7004) Plaza (071-407 9558) Whiteleys (071-732 3303/3304).

**DICKENS' WOMEN** (PG): A musical production of the famous opera. Camden Parkway (071-837 7004) Plaza (071-407 9558) Whiteleys (071-732 3303/3304).

**INVISIBLE FRIENDS** (PG): A musical production of the famous opera. Camden Parkway (071-837 7004) Plaza (071-407 9558) Whiteleys (071-732 3303/3304).

**JOSEPH AND THE AMAZING TECHNICOLOUR DREAMCOAT** (PG): A musical production of the famous opera. Camden Parkway (071-837 7004) Plaza (071-407 9558) Whiteleys (071-732 3303/3304).

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## CINEMA GUIDE

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## THEATRE

### Moscow State Circus

#### Battersea Park

BEFORE the start of Friday night's show, the MC came to announce that the Soviet Union's top circus troupe was "a teeny bit nervous" about some technical and administrative problems. Presumably this is just a ploy to make the audience nervous, for no signs of nerves were visible in the two strapping Dovesko brothers, one on a pair of six-foot stilts, the other on a monostil, who were catapulted 30 feet into the air, performed double or triple somersaults, and landed with hardly a stumble on their stilts.

Amusing technical virtuosity is the hallmark of this company, the product of the world's only professional circus school: the aerial flight of Marina Zakharenko, hanging by the tips of her toes as she whirls through upper space, suggests how the Soviet Union has produced some of the world's best circus acts.

The Alexandrov's horses did gallop round the ring at high speed with young riders clinging to their bellies, an activity that seemed pointless and possibly dizzying for the horses. But I felt more concerned for the young Hapsters brothers, trained by their father to turn their limbs inside out and hop along like contorted frogs. In case I sound like an old cynic, let me report that younger members of the audience greatly enjoyed the show.

HARRY EYRES

## THEATRE

### Die Entführung aus dem Serail

#### Garsington, Oxford

OPERA in a garden, like sex under water, is one of those notions whose appeal to the imagination can be boundless. In the technical problems, which include (in the former case, to be sure) the deflation of theatrical illusion in the face of stone walls, the interfering noises of passing traffic, of birds and of the awning's flapping canvas, and most seriously, the sheer

acoustic impossibility of singing and playing music that was not designed to vanish into empty air. If the ideal can survive all these awkwardnesses, that is perhaps only partly because of Haydn at Esterházy and the Christians at Glyndebourne. No doubt Glyndebourne has stimulated a taste for country-house opera, a taste which Glyndebourne itself cannot come to satisfy, but Mozart's *Entführung* is of course something else: a dream which may have to do, as in the last act of *Figaro*, with extravagance and order brought into balance, with psychology and botany likewise tamed. Or it may just be the seductiveness of sipping champagne

in somebody else's expensive piece of horticulture. The problems, though, will not go away, and they lie heavily on this Opera 80 production at Garsington Manor, one of many venues for outdoor opera this summer. Garsington at least has the advantage of its much-stated and high-hedged gardens, laid out when Lady Orléans Morrell was the chateleine, but acoustically vacuous and distraction are the same here as anywhere else. Stephen Barlow comes to Mozart's Turkish opera with speed and spirit, but there is no chance for the instrumental sounds to equal the climbing roses in their bloom, nor is

the open air kind to voices. Faith Elliott is brave and lively in trying to get some of Mozart's most taxing music across while maintaining fineness of delivery. There are also engaging performances from Paul Harriy as Pedrillo and Stephen Richardson as Osmin, the latter's deep bass sounding full and strong even here. Caroline Sharrman's production profits from the location when the pasha enters in a flurry of excitement from the knot garden, but otherwise it keeps its head down.

PAUL GRIFFITHS

Arts features, page 13

## WORD-WATCHING

Answers from page 18

**THE GREAT EMANCIPATOR** (c) Abraham Lincoln, 1809-65, 16th president of the USA, in recognition of his emancipation of the slaves in 1863, also the Rail Splitter, because he split rails for a living as a young man.

**THE OLD GLOANER** (b) Harry Lillis Crosby (1904-77), American popular singer, better known by his other nickname Bing, or in German Der Bingley odder, he had a smooth low voice rather than a great.

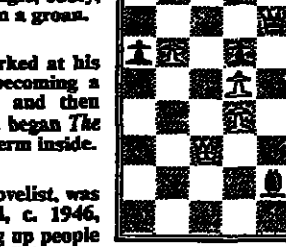
**THE IMMORTAL TINKER** (c) John Bunyan (1628-88), who worked at his father's trade as a tinker, before becoming a soldier on the Parliamentary side, and then turning to preaching and writing. He began *The Pilgrim's Progress* during his second term in prison.

**BASHER** (a) Beryl Bainbridge (b. 1934), the novelist, was so named at school near Liverpool, c. 1946, because of her propensity for bashing up people (boys and girls). "I was a terrible fighter at school and the children were when I challenged 25 girls to a fight."

## WINNING MOVE

By Raymond Kepp, Chess Correspondent

Today's position is from the game Hodgson - Davies, Watson, Farley & Williams/City of London Corporation Chess Challenge 1991. Can you work out white's most direct route to victory?



White to move. What is the winning move?

## PETER HALL COMPANY PLAYHOUSE

JULIE WALTERS

THE PERFORMANCE OF THE YEAR

THE ROSE TATTOO

A TRIUMPH FOR PASSION

THE MARGROUP PLAYHOUSE

THE MARGROUP PLAYHOUSE

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## THEATRE

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- BUSINESS AND FINANCE 21-26
- DEGREE RESULTS 24
- LAW 27
- EDUCATION 28,29
- SPORT 30-36

## Brent plan aims to stall GrandMet

ADVISERS to Brent Walker, the troubled leisure group, have devised a scheme to prevent Grand Metropolitan pocketing a disputed £50 million, even if it wins an appeal court case on July 15.

Brent is confident that GrandMet will not be able to claim the money immediately, but will have to be satisfied with deferred payments over several years if it wins the case.

The money represents Brent's final payment for the £685 million acquisition of William Hill, the betting shop chain. In February, Brent lost a high court action to avoid paying the instalment on the grounds that profits were less than expected.

Hill Samuel, Brent's adviser, has told the steering committee of Brent's creditors that the GrandMet affair no longer threatens Brent's refinancing plan.

Hill Samuel and Standard Chartered, the company's leading bank, hope to win agreement for the £1.4 billion refinancing from Brent's 47 main banks by the end of the week. Many of the banks have already accepted the terms, which include a further loan of £50 million, but Standard is trying to iron out objections from several Japanese lenders, including Sumitomo Bank.

## Accountancy network

A network of small British accountancy firms will be launched today, designed to challenge the likely international dominance of the big six multinational firms in the single European market.

The network, called Euro Defi UK, is part of a larger Euro Defi organisation, which originated from an initiative started two years ago in France. Accountants there are particularly anxious about the implications of cross-border business because the big firms are all Anglo-Saxon and many have their strongest continental connections in The Netherlands.

France Defi already has 325 member firms and operates a central service on specialist areas, such as taxation and mergers. Euro Defi UK will concentrate initially on referral of business between firms and has already had expressions of interest from about 100 British companies with 30 or fewer partners.

They hope to gain business but also to keep existing clients who need expertise abroad and might otherwise switch to one of the big firms.

Target membership is 150 companies and the group will have a small central secretariat. Euro Defi plans to launch further national networks in Italy next month, in Belgium and Luxembourg in September and in Germany and Switzerland next year.

## East German improvement

Signs of economic improvement are emerging in eastern Germany, especially in the construction sector, according to the latest survey by the Ifo research institute in Munich. For the first time since Ifo started its monthly eastern German surveys, companies have reported higher output and are increasingly optimistic about the outlook for the months ahead.

Karl Heinrich Oppenlander, head of Ifo, predicted eastern Germany would start to recover by the end of this year, with annual rises in industrial output of more than 10 per cent between 1992 to 1995, although unemployment is expected to continue rising for some time.

## CHANGE ON WEEK

### THE POUND

US dollar  
1.6325 (-0.0070)  
German mark  
2.9393 (+0.0079)  
Exchange index  
89.7 (-0.1)

### STOCK MARKET

FT 30 Share  
1947.3 (-29.0)  
FT-SE 100  
2487.5 (-34.8)  
New York Dow Jones  
2965.56 (-34.89)  
Tokyo Nikkei Ave  
24275.08 (-818.81)

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# CBI survey undermines Lamont's recovery forecast

By GRAHAM SEARJEANT  
AND ROSS TIEMAN

NORMAN Lamont's forecast that the economy will start to recover in the third quarter of the year has been severely dented by a new Confederation of British Industry survey that shows manufacturers are expecting and planning for a further drop in output over the next four months.

The latest industrial trends survey, which was conducted between May 29 and June 19, suggests that while the downturn in output is slowing, manufacturers see no sign of an upturn. There is further good news on inflation, however. For the second

month running, as many companies expect to reduce their prices over the next four months as to raise them.

The survey confirms that hopes generated by the short upsurge of retail trade and housebuying interest around Easter were premature. A net 11 per cent of those surveyed expect output to drop over the next four months, fewer than the 18 per cent recorded in May but above April's 8 per cent. A net 58 per cent report subnormal orders, compared with 61 per cent a month ago, while a net 33 per cent (37 per cent) have subnormal export order books. There has been no respite from excess stocks. David Wigglesworth, chairman of the

confederation's economic situation committee, suggested the indicated fall in underlying inflation could create conditions for further cuts in interest rates. He said: "The continued weakness of order books is imposing significant constraints on the ability of manufacturers to increase their prices and this heralds a further fall in private sector-induced inflation."

The Chancellor, who says he pays close attention to the survey, is confident that output in the second half of the year will be higher than in the first half. Interviewed on BBC Television's *On the Record* yesterday, he said "the recovery will come", but admitted that it might not be easy to see at

an early stage because it would be gradual. The Society of Business Economists forecast that output would be flat in the third quarter but rise modestly in the fourth.

Mr Lamont said patience was required because interest rate cuts in the spring had not begun to take effect and might take six to nine months to boost the confidence of consumers and industrialists. He said the fall in rates since October was about the same as the cut that turned around the 1980-1 slump, which had been deeper. "As the months go by, we will see confidence returning," he added. The pressure for further early interest rate cuts will continue

this week, but is likely to come up against the continuing weakness of sterling.

Roger Bootle, of Greenwell Montagu, suggests that interest rate cuts will continue to be constrained unless the government helps confidence in sterling by moving to the narrow band of the exchange-rate mechanism in the autumn. The Chancellor left open yesterday the possibility of such a move near the first anniversary of entry into the ERM in October. He said a move to the narrow band depended on British inflation converging with continental countries, but said inflation should be near to German and French levels by the end of the year.

## Muted response to Japanese concern

# G7 adopts a wary stance over dollar

By COLIN NARBROUGH, ECONOMICS CORRESPONDENT

The Group of Seven finance ministers have kept the financial markets guessing by agreeing to intervene collectively in foreign exchange markets if necessary, but appear to have agreed only that the dollar should not rise further and not that its recent rise should be reversed.

After their meeting at the Queen Elizabeth II conference centre in Westminster, London, the ministers put some stress on their continued efforts to co-operate on keeping orderly foreign exchange markets. They gave little encouragement to Japan, which had called the conference, and is anxious for the dollar to be brought down to counter new trade frictions brought by the weakness of the yen.

Instead, they stressed the move away from global recession to growth, with America now joining Germany and Japan. Norman Lamont, the Chancellor, said economic developments since the last meeting in April showed that the prospect of sustained growth was "more secure".

Mr Lamont said the highest priority should be given to reaching a successful outcome to the stalled Uruguay round

of global trade talks.

Karl Otto Pöhl, the retiring Bundesbank president, said there would be concerted intervention against the dollar if necessary. But Herr Pöhl, in one of his last international economic appearances, underlined the communiqué's cautious wording. He said: "The charm of such statements is not to say when you are going to do something. The theme of the dollar is never off the table."

Germany has been playing down the significance of the conference since Japan's initial move to call it and made no attempt yesterday to suggest action was urgent. Nicholas Brady, America's Treasury secretary, who had a private meeting before the G7 session with Ryutaro Hashimoto, his Japanese opposite number, said after the main meeting of finance ministers and their central bankers that the dollar's sharp rise had been entirely consistent with ordinary markets. "Over a period of three or four years now we have had orderly markets and this recent movement fits within those orderly markets," he said.

The dollar has recovered sharply despite the fall in interest rates due to the anticipated economic recovery, which has attracted interest

both in equity investment and on dealers' reasoning that rates are unlikely to fall any further in the short-term.

Japanese officials made it clear that they wanted joint currency intervention whenever necessary to stem any further rise of the dollar. "The odds are that we will stand ready to act together forcefully to counter any excessive rise of the dollar," said one.

Officials said the G7 nations believed the yen's value against the dollar did not properly reflect Japan's economic fundamentals and should therefore be corrected. But they seem to have come up against European countries less worried about the dollar and less convinced that anything could be done about it.

The meeting seems finally to have defused American pressure for lower interest rates in Germany and Japan. Herr Pöhl declined to give details of the discussion on interest rate policy but stressed that the meeting had accepted the economic situation varied widely among the G7 countries. Theo Waigel, Germany's finance minister, said there were no controversial discussions on interest rate policy.

Economic View, page 23



Pöhl's parting shot: the dollar continues to be a problem for finance ministers of the Group of Seven nations

## Lloyd's to unveil heavy loss

By JONATHAN PRYNN

LLOYD'S names are expected to turn up in force at the insurance market's Line Street headquarters on Wednesday to hear what are expected to be disastrous results for the 1988 year of account.

Latest projections from Chatset, the independent firm of Lloyd's analysts, put the expected loss at £270 million. The "pure" loss on 1988 underwriting is expected to be £308 million, with additional losses on pre-1988 open years at £212 million. The deficit will be the first since 1965 when Lloyd's was hit, as now, by low premium rates and catastrophe losses.

Chatset is forecasting a loss of £1 billion for 1989. This figure is likely to rise as losses from earlier unclosed years feed through. In December, Chatset forecast a small profit for 1988. Similar deterioration is possible for 1989.

David Coleridge, chairing his first Lloyd's annual meeting, is expected to come under pressure from names to amalgamate all the loss-making years in a single sinking fund, the cost of which would be borne by the whole market.

Mr Coleridge, however, will urge names to wait for the findings of the task force led by David Rowland, the chairman of Sedgwick. Mr Coleridge will also point to the profitable years expected in the early Nineties.

Bernard Levin, page 14  
What's in a name, page 23

## Poor weather hits sales

By GILLIAN BOWDITCH

THE absence of any sign of summer is adding to the depressed climate in Britain's high streets as retailers accept that they will have to mark down large amounts of summer stock in the July sales.

Most fashion retailers now operate tight stock controls and "just in time" systems of ordering to ensure they are not left with much surplus stock, but even the tightest controls

cannot take persistent cold and wet weather into account.

Top Shop, the Burton chain, has a half-price sale already, and Debenhams, its department store chain, offered a 1½-hour sale at the weekend. Comet, Kingfisher's electrical retail chain, and Currys, the Dixons chain, have begun their sales.

SG Warburg said in a research report on consumer confidence: "The recession in consumer spending has been deeper and longer than most retailers had forecast." The timetable for the emergence of positive profits growth has been put back six months, though not cancelled.

Most retailers were more worried about rising unemployment, which is affecting consumer confidence, than about the weather. Warburg does not expect an upturn in sentiment until the autumn.

## Spurs asks for suspension of shares to end after bid

By MICHAEL TATE, CITY EDITOR

TOTTENHAM Hotspur plc will today ask the London Stock Exchange to lift the suspension on dealings in its shares imposed when the full horror of its financial crisis began to emerge last October.

The application will come in the wake of the official confirmation to the Stock Exchange of the formal 75p-a-share cash offer by Alan Sugar, the chairman of Amstrad, and Terry Venables, the club manager.

In the light of the Sugar/Venables offer, and the football club's agreement with the Midland Bank, its main creditor, it is likely that the Stock Exchange will agree to a prompt resumption of trading. Dealings could begin tomorrow.

When last quoted, on October 19 last year, Tottenham Hotspur shares stood at 91p. At one point last winter it looked as if they might be

almost worthless, but the new credibility lent to the club by Mr Sugar and Mr Venables could even push the shares above the offer price.

Mr Sugar and Mr Venables between them speak for 35.8 per cent of the Tottenham equity after agreeing to buy the stakes of Irving Scholar and Paul Bobroff for £2.73 million. Under City takeover

rules, they are obliged to make a similar offer to every other shareholder. But they are asking shareholders to follow the example of Tony Berry, the Tottenham director and 7.8 per cent shareholder, a supporter of their bid, and not accept such an offer.

Mr Sugar and Mr Venables, who will become chairman and group managing director respectively of Tottenham Hotspur plc, have another £5 million available, but would rather pump it into the club towards a forthcoming rights issue.

Their plea is likely to strike a chord with most shareholders, who double as fans. The formal offer document is expected to be accompanied by the overdue interim trading results from Tottenham, and it is likely that publication of the preliminary results for the year to end-May will be brought forward.



Sugar: becomes chairman

## Whisky distillers fear tax galore

By OUR CITY EDITOR

LEADERS of Britain's whisky industry confronted Norman Lamont, the Chancellor, last night, in a last-ditch attempt to prevent the government agreeing to what they fear are damaging European proposals on the taxation of alcoholic drinks.

Colonel Bill Bewsher, director general of the Scotch Whisky Association, and Anthony Tennant, chairman of Guinness, owner of several whisky brands, including Johnnie Walker and Bell's, were summoned to the Treasury only hours before today's meeting of the European Community economic and finance committee in Luxembourg, where European excise harmonisation was expected to be discussed.

The distillers believe the government is on the brink of accepting a plan to impose an excise duty that would raise the price of whisky by as much as £2.50 a bottle, or up to 40 per cent, in some

countries. At the same time, wine is likely to be low rated for excise duty. The whisky industry has been pressing for a system under which wine, beer and spirits are taxed equally on the units of alcohol they contain.

The Treasury has so far offered little encouragement to the industry beyond claiming that there would be a long transition period. The measures, which would come into force in the new European single market in 1993, leave whisky and other spirits less competitive against wine, and undermine the industry's most important export market. Continental Europe accounted for 30 per cent of whisky exports last year, at £622 million, and the market has been growing particularly fast in southern European countries, such as Italy, Spain and Greece.

At the root of the problem is the wide differential between the levels of duty on

alcoholic drinks levied by members of the Community. The government fears that the dismantling of trade barriers in 1992 could lead to a sharp drop in revenue as vast quantities of cheap Scotch whisky exports find their way back into Britain and on to the home market at the revenue's expense.

The whisky industry believes the government has other options for dealing with any such re-imports. For instance, it could levy a tax on all commercial imports, overcoming possible political objections by playing the health card. One industry source said: "Imports could be limited on the grounds that over-indulgence is not good for your health."

Mr Tennant said the government would be "wrong to sacrifice the whisky industry for political reasons, but it looks as if they are going to sell us down the river".

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# TSB profit poised to collapse after Hill Samuel losses

By NEIL BENNETT, BANKING CORRESPONDENT

THE TSB Group will announce a collapse in profits on Thursday because of massive bad debt provisions at Hill Samuel, its corporate banking division.

Hill Samuel is thought to have lost more than £100 million in the six months to end-April due to write-offs of up to £200 million against company failures. Up to £80 million of these provisions will be against the bank's loans of £120 million to Brent Walker, the debt-stricken lei-

sure group. The figures will be a grim warning about the interim results from the other main banks due at the end of next month.

The results are also likely to mute criticism about the banks' lending practices to small businesses, an area in which many of the bad debts are being incurred.

A circular from Smith New Court last week, entitled *A Horror Story from Hill Samuel*, exposed the extent of the problems. Michael Lever, Smith's banking analyst, estimates that TSB's profits will fall from £175 million to just £20 million.

The group's overall provisions for the half are forecast to rise to £286 million, £27 million higher than for the whole of last year. If the provisions are slightly worse than Smith forecasts, TSB will fall into losses.

Hill Samuel was encouraged to expand its lending in the late Eighties so that the TSB could earn a greater return on its large retail deposit base. The company is now paying for the speed of that expan-

sion. Mr Lever said: "Sorting out Hill Samuel's asset quality problems may take longer than expected. TSB's current management must share some of the blame for this performance."

The losses at Hill Samuel, however, could be disguised in TSB's figures because of a reorganisation last March that merged Hill Samuel with its profitable former investment services and unit trust arm.

Hamish Donaldson, Hill Samuel's chief executive, left the group in March in the face of criticism from the TSB's boards about Hill Samuel's lending policy.

Sir Nicholas Goodison, TSB's chairman, said at the bank's annual meeting: "Some of the loans were based on inferior judgment coloured by the common optimism of the time."

Hugh Freedberg, Mr Donaldson's successor, will be keen to ensure that the bank's provisions are as complete as possible so he can start with a clean slate.

Reporting This Week, page 24



Goodison: criticism



Pressing questions: Keith Whitten, the chairman, with some of the trouser presses that have prompted debate

## Jourdan presses on with sales drive

By MATTHEW BOND

PROMPTED by a letter from Peter Wood, of Sevenoaks, Kent, the Letters Page of this newspaper has been inundated with suggestions for what can be done with the electric trouser press that graces so many of Britain's hotel bedrooms.

Suggestions have ranged from warming pyjamas to reheating foil-wrapped bacon and egg sandwiches. But for Thomas Jourdan, the company that manufactures the Corby trouser press,

the hotel bedroom is a serious marketing tool.

Keith Whitten, chairman of Thomas Jourdan, said: "We find that the majority of people buy our press after they have used one in a hotel. For many people it is a case of 'I didn't know I needed one until I tried one'."

Each year, therefore, about one in five Corby presses ends up in a hotel bedroom. Every year, about 100,000 people decide they need one.

Paradoxically, the recession, which has devastated menswear sales, has produced a bonus for Thomas Jourdan.

"In a recession, people are pressing suits and cleaning ties rather more."

The trouser press is not only found in British hotels. "They are used all across Europe. We've virtually saturated Scandinavia, we're strong in Germany and we're making inroads into France. Italy also has a very strong tradition, although they prefer the old wooden press to the newer

electric models," Mr Whitten said.

He added that in America sales to individuals are strong, but the hotel market has proved difficult to penetrate, because the electric trouser press is seen as direct competition to the hotel's valet service.

Mr Wood of Sevenoaks asked why trouser presses are found in British hotel bedrooms? When did he last see a valet in a British hotel bedroom?

## Kalikow loans collateral sought

From PHILIP ROBINSON IN NEW YORK

NATIONAL Westminster Bank, which American banking sources have said lent \$65 million to Donald Trump, the troubled property businessman, on a handshake, is among 16 banks trying to gain more collateral on \$1 billion lent to Peter Kalikow, another New York property developer. Early reports suggested that the banks, led by Chase Manhattan and including Marine Midland, Citicorp, Hongkong and Shanghai Bank offshoot, were demanding his 137 ft yacht, private jet, collection of rare cars, country home, other property and the New York Post, the newspaper he has owned since 1988.

Mr Kalikow said at the weekend: "They're not getting any of that. We haven't got an agreement yet, but I've got more than enough to put up without losing any of my personal assets."

Bankers have said Mr Kalikow must provide \$242 million worth of collateral to cover what is currently unsecured debt.

A creditor's report, prepared in April, said NatWest and Marine Midland were owed about \$15 million each from a total \$1.08 billion debts.

## Wales attracts foreign money

THIRTY-ONE overseas companies have invested more than £300 million in Wales during the past three months, says Gwyn Jones, chairman of the Welsh Development Agency (WDA).

The companies will create 6,500 jobs, three times the number generated in the same period last year.

Among the investments are the Japanese TV company Sony's promise of 1,400 jobs in mid-Glamorgan and Northern Telecom of Canada's construction of a telecommunications manufacturing factory in Gwent.

Together with David Hunt, Welsh secretary of state, Dr Jones is this week canvassing further investment interest during a visit to America and Canada.

Much of the time will be spent trying to woo high-tech companies from Silicon Valley, following the launch of the WDA's information technology initiative last week.

European firms are also moving into Wales. Lucas Meyer, the German company, is bringing a materials manufacturing plant; and Dawn Pac, an Irish meat company, is opening a processing facility in rural Dyfed.

These investments represent an upsurge in the flow of capital and jobs into Wales

and are an encouraging sign for the future," says Dr Jones.

"This upward trend is being supported by an increasing number of companies inquiring about bringing new projects to the principality."

Dr Jones said his own business background gave him a good knowledge of the requirements of American high-tech companies.

"And high-tech companies represent the kind of research-based advanced industries that we particularly want in Wales."

On his return he will further this campaign by launching a research and development initiative to secure more research projects from overseas.

Accompanying Dr Jones and Mr Hunt to America is Geraint Stanley Jones, head of S4C, the Welsh television channel.

Wales is already active in the international animation market, having signed a £3.5 million deal to animate Shakespeare's plays for the Russians. S4C hopes that after the visit to America there will be scope for increasing collaboration with American film-makers.

Last year Wales had its most successful year ever for inward investment, with 147 projects worth £585 million creating 15,000 jobs.

## CAPITAL MARKETS

## Counting the change in British banking

SMALL companies are not the only ones to have suffered from margin increases on their bank loans. The smaller end of the corporate sector may have been grabbing the headlines, but the phenomenon, albeit on a less dramatic scale, has afflicted companies of all sizes.

Ask any treasurer about banking relationships in the mid-Eighties and he will sigh nostalgically and talk about the days of token fees and non-existent margins. But the golden era of corporate banking (from the companies' point of view) ended suddenly last year when most of the Japanese banks withdrew from lending in Britain virtually overnight.

A survey by KPMG Management Consulting suggests that 90 per cent of treasurers have had to endure margin increases when negotiating new or matured facilities in the past two years. Inevitably, the larger the company, the higher the credit quality and the smaller the rise in margins.

KPMG found that most of Britain's 100 biggest companies experienced an increase in the 5-20 basis point range, not massive, but still up to £1 million a year on a £500 million loan.

Companies further down the corporate range, in the 300 to 500 biggest category, generally estimated the increase in their margins at more than 50 basis points. Including the extras, such as higher front-end and commitment fees, and punitive non-utilisation fees, the cost increases are substantial.

Like their smaller corporate

brethren, Britain's larger companies are less than wholly sympathetic to the banks' reasons for the mark-ups. Nearly six out of ten of those treasurers surveyed believed they were paying for "various ill-judged ventures of the 1980s, whether these be Third World debt, the American farming sector, highly leveraged transactions or property lending."

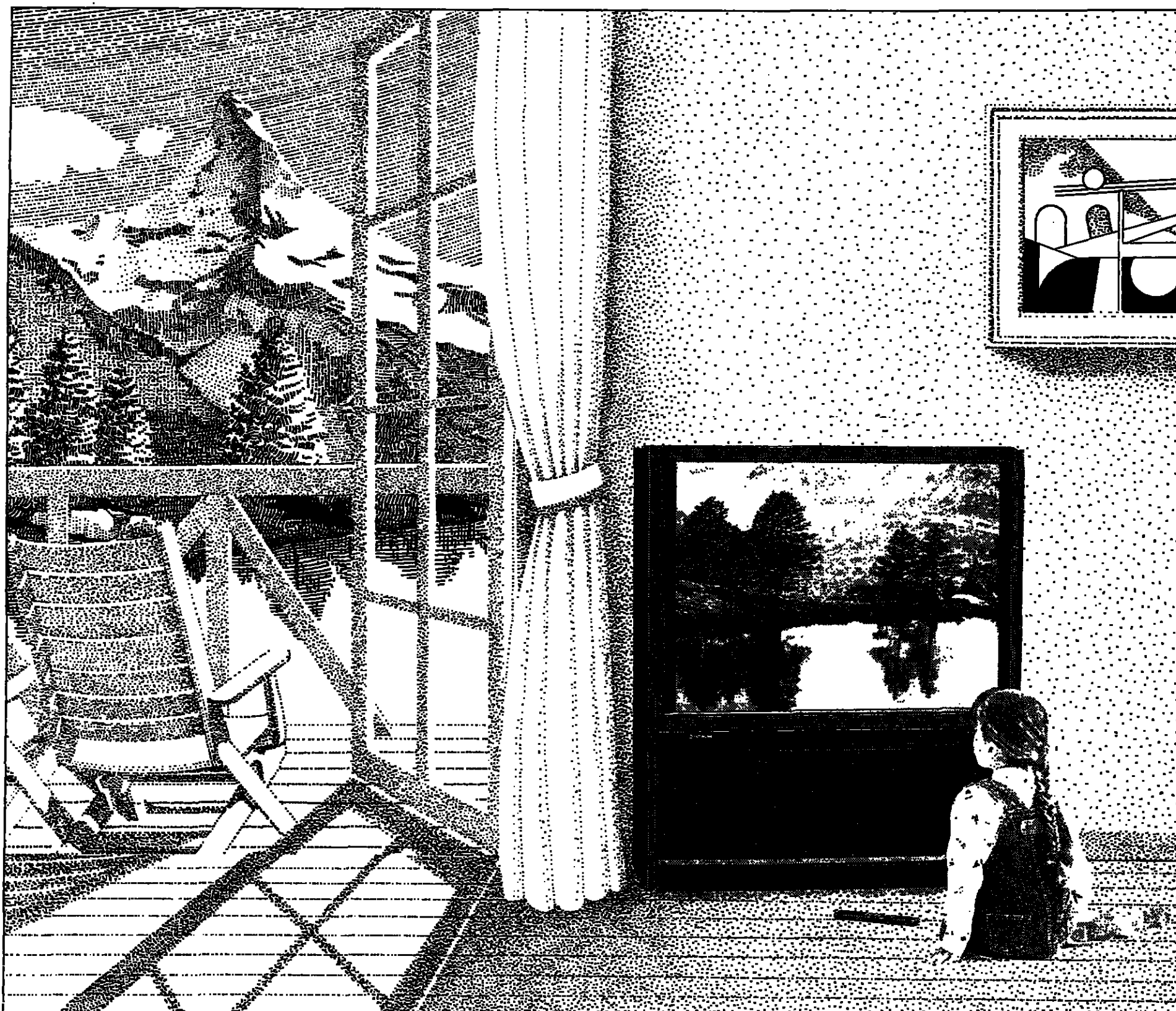
Others, reports KPMG, sensed a change in the nature of competition between the banks. In the good old days, banks and their customers would negotiate the pricing of the loan, with the borrower usually holding the whip hand. Now, with no pressure from head office to expand balance sheets, banks are happy to walk away from deals.

However, despite the grumbling, a surprisingly high 75 per cent of respondents said they were satisfied with the support provided by banks in the recession. Of the 10 per cent who said their banks had been less than supportive during the recession, most pointed to the Japanese and American banks as being the least reliable.

Significantly, treasurers have been surprised at how effectively the continental banks have been able to fill the gap.

The age of the continental style long-term banking relationship may be dawning in Britain. But for the thousands of start-ups, corner shops and other small companies under threat from the clearers, it will come too late.

JONATHAN PRYNN



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# Lower the dollar to keep the peace

## ECONOMIC VIEW

ANATOLE KALETSKY

Two months ago, just before the Group of Seven's last meeting, I wrote that the worst was probably over for the mark. This prediction was based in part on a belief that America, Japan and Germany would find common cause in a concerted campaign to push down the dollar, stabilise the mark and strengthen the yen. Both predictions have been proved wrong so far, but they could yet be vindicated by yesterday's G7 meeting in London.

Although yesterday's communiqué was far from explicit, the outlines of a potentially important deal on currencies could be read between the lines. While many commentators (including this one) said something similar two months ago, the G7 had even more reason to strike a genuine bargain this time.

The widening of America's trade deficit in April, announced last week, and particularly the sharp rise in imports at the first hint of a rebound in domestic demand, was a salutary reminder for Nicholas Brady, the American Treasury Secretary, of the

problems in store if he allowed the dollar to continue its upward rampage.

Another straw in the wind was the comment about widespread declines in export orders that appeared in the Federal Reserve Board's "tan book" report on the economy, released on Wednesday.

The sudden fall in share prices on the Tokyo stock market on Wednesday to a level not seen since the Gulf war was an equally strong warning to both the Japanese and the American authorities about the fragility of financial confidence around the world.

Stock markets are often at their most vulnerable when economic trends are about to change and the last thing either Washington or Tokyo wants is a stock market crash.

For the Japanese another factor may be even more critical. If the Tokyo market fell another 4 per cent or so, to about 23,000

on the Nikkei index, many Japanese banks would find their capital ratios below the Basle international guidelines.

This would bring back fears of the financial meltdown so widely discussed in Japan last year — falling equity prices, leading to lower bank capital ratios, leading to tightened lending standards, leading to weaker economic growth and further falls in the stock market.

Everyone in Tokyo believes the surest way of averting such a disaster would be for the Bank of Japan to cut its official discount rate, which has been kept at what the Japanese regard as the crippling high level of 6 per cent since last August.

Despite the 11.2 per cent

annualised first quarter growth in gross national product announced last week, the Japanese government believes the economy is decelerating sharply.

The first quarter's growth was seriously exaggerated by Gulf war factors, such as the typically unanimous decision of Japanese tourists to stop travelling abroad for their winter holidays and spend their money at home.

For the year as a whole, growth is still expected to be nearer 4 per cent than last year's 5.6 per cent, and the surge in the first quarter leaves precious little expansion left for the rest of the year.

The very subdued prospects for the next six months have been confirmed by indicators such as the money supply, which has

some meaning in Japan because of the continuing regulation of the financial system. This has grown at a record low rate of 3.5 per cent in the year to May.

For both Japan and America, therefore, the kind of G7 deal discussed two months ago in New York without enthusiasm might now seem more attractive. The Japanese have much stronger domestic motivations to accede to America's demands for lower interest rates. But they can do this only if the yen strengthens against the dollar.

The Americans may now be more willing to co-operate in pushing down the dollar. Two months ago, the Treasury might still have thought a falling dollar would deter the Fed from making further cuts in rates; but now further American rate cuts are out of the question anyway because of the strengthening of the domestic economy.

The priority is therefore to make the recovery sustainable.

Certainly the White House does not want a strengthening of the economy to set off another balance of payments problem and push Japan-bashing back up the political agenda before the presidential election.

A deal along these lines between America and Japan leaves Germany comfortably wedged in the middle. The mark would undoubtedly benefit from any general decline in the dollar that the G7 might achieve. Initially, the mark may rise even against the yen, having been much more severely oversold in the past three months.

On the interest rate front, even Mr Brady was unlikely to have tried to push Germany into a premature easing, after something near to an unheard-of collapse of confidence in both the mark and the anti-inflationary credentials of the Bundesbank in the past few months.

If the Germans can simply refrain from raising their interest rates, while the Japanese and Americans see to an easing of the dollar, everybody should look back on yesterday's meeting as a day well spent.

## The rapidly diminishing tale of what's in a name

WHEN it was revealed last week that Lloyd's was seeking amendments to the finance bill to provide £50 million of tax relief for its long-suffering names, the reaction could not have been more polarised.

For the press and large sections of the public, here was yet another example of this uniquely well-connected special interest group pulling strings after getting into trouble entirely as a result of its own greed. For Lloyd's, it was only an attempt to establish a fiscal level playing field with its main competitors, the insurance companies.

Both views have some merit. Lloyd's is certainly entitled to argue that it will miss out on two tax concessions announced in the Budget aimed at benefiting companies.

One of these, tax relief on capital gains made by a loss-making company, Lloyd's has accepted could not be extended to names because of the market's three-year accounting system. Lloyd's argues, however, that this technical impasse gave its claim to the other relief, carry-back of losses, all the more validity.

Lloyd's began to lobby for extension of three-year carry-back relief to names almost as soon as Norman Lamont finished his Budget speech. Mr Lamont had announced that, in view of the severity of the recession, companies should be entitled to offset their trading losses against the previous three years' profits instead of just one as was the case before. Corporate insurance companies would clearly benefit from three-year carry-back, so why not individual underwriters at Lloyd's?

But despite intensive lobbying from David Coleridge, the chairman of Lloyd's, and a number of Conservative MPs who were Lloyd's names, the Treasury decided not to back the extension of three-year carry-back relief to names.

One reason for the decision was that Lloyd's names can be compared with other groups of taxpayers as well as insurance companies. In tax terms, Lloyd's names fall into the schedule D bracket, which covers the self-employed. As Nicholas Andrew, a partner in



Field leveller: David Coleridge of Lloyd's wants equal terms with the competition

Rawlinson & Hunter, the accountancy firm, said: "It is unlikely that the government would wish to extend the benefit to Lloyd's names but not to all other schedule D traders." Many other groups of schedule D traders, such as chartered surveyors, are also going through hard times, and could argue as strong a case for three-year carry-back of losses as Lloyd's names.

this problem can be addressed," he said.

One avenue Lloyd's is particularly keen to explore is tax treatment of reserving, a long-standing source of dispute between the market and the Inland Revenue. As usual where tax matters at Lloyd's are concerned, the issue is not simple.

In basic terms, Lloyd's wants the Revenue to look more kindly on the reserves

one more example of how the tax benefits of becoming a Lloyd's name have been whittled away. In the Seventies, as top tax rates on unearned income soared to 98 per cent, the tax breaks were one of the biggest attractions of Lloyd's membership. But as tax rates fell during the Eighties, so the tax breaks came under relentless attack. However, the following survive:

- Three-year delay in paying tax on members' trading activities as names because of the three-year accounting system.
- Higher-rate tax relief on transfers of profits to reserves to fund years of loss.
- Indemnity relief on losses on investments held in deposits prior to distribution.
- Inheritance tax relief at 50 per cent on reserves and deposits up to £100,000.
- Repayment supplement paid by Inland Revenue on tax repaid as a result of losses.

These five make a poor comparison with the fiscal favours granted to Lloyd's just a decade ago. Ironically, it may take a Labour government, and the higher top tax rates it would bring, to restore the tax advantages of becoming a name.

JONATHAN PRYNN

### It may take a Labour government to restore the advantage of being a name

In any case, the entire schedule D system is currently under review with a consultative document due out in a few months. The government would have found it hard to favour one special interest group just as a wholesale reform of the taxation of all self-employed traders was about to be announced.

Andrew Duguid, head of the market services group at Lloyd's, says the negotiations with the government will continue in an attempt to find another route to ease the burden on loss-making names. "We are eager to discuss how

set up by managing agents to provide for major claims. Lloyd's argues that these reserves are essential if Lloyd's is to provide the sort of buffer against losses that the insurance companies can provide. "The tax treatment for reserving in Britain is much less generous than in other countries," Mr Duguid says. Sceptical Inland Revenue inspectors take a different view. They have seen the reserves as little more than a means to avoid paying tax by channelling profits away from the profit and loss account.

The reserving issue is just

## THE TIMES CITY DIARY

### Globe-trotter called to bar

BARBARA Mills, the globe-trotting director of the Serious Fraud Office, has a line to add to her CV. Mills, who visits Australia next month, has just returned from her first official visit to Northern Ireland, which falls within the SFO's jurisdiction. Aside from meeting Sir Brian Hutton, the Lord Chief Justice, and Alasdair Fraser, the director of public prosecutions, she was called to the Northern Ireland bar. She also met Hugh Annesley, chief constable of the Royal Ulster Constabulary, which has been working closely with the SFO. The link spells little joy for miscreants in the province.

### Port sideline

A HOST of Japanese bankers, fruit importers and oil company executives are due in Milford Haven, South Wales, next month, for a glance at what the area has to offer investors. To make the visit as

memorable as possible, the Welsh tourist board has timed it to overlap with the Carty Sark tall ships race, which starts from the port on July 14. After arriving by train, guests will be given a tour of the harbour, then wined and dined. Suitably refreshed, they will then retire for the night... to the local railway siding. Not, perhaps, the best view in town.

### In the know

POOR old Fimbra. The City watchdog, set up to keep an eye on financial advisers, has its lawyers poring over a £3.14 million writ for damages, issued by Pointon York Vos, the insurance broker. There must be some gnashing of teeth all round since Geoffrey Pointon, the chairman, is a familiar figure at Fimbra's Marsh Wall offices. Pointon was not only the inspiration for Nasdin, from which Fimbra evolved, but became chairman of Fimbra's complaints committee. Inside knowledge, one might say.

BARCLAYS, the bank "you're better off talking to", set a record this weekend — by creating the world's tallest free-standing crane. The 111-metre crane has gone up at 54 Lombard Street, the bank's former headquarters, which are being rebuilt and should open again in spring 1993.

### Book of names

READERS dipping into *The Lloyd's Report*, written by Dr W G Hill, might expect an account of scandal and incompetence at the famous Lime Street insurance market. But they would be wrong. The tome points out the benefits of "one of the better and least risky business opportunities in the world today". Names, the book assures its readership, should enjoy an income of "between £10,000 and £200,000 per year for the rest of your life". The book, which retails at £60, promises a money-back guarantee — exactly the kind of thing some of the names, facing losses of

£500 million and upwards, would welcome with open arms.

### Oliver's new twist

OLIVER Hemsley, managing director of Raphael Zorn Hemsley, the private client stockbroker, is preparing for his next challenge after his return from a trip to the newly reopened Hungarian stock exchange in Budapest, where he attempted to pass on one or two tricks of the trade to local businessmen. His firm is sponsoring broker to Simpsons of Cornhill and the Jamaica Inn, two legendary City eating establishments, which are due to be floated on the Unlisted Securities Market next month. Hemsley, a Lloyd's name, is acting for Roy Ackerman, who built up the Kennedy Brookes chain, and Paul Reece, formerly of European Leisure, who hope to build up a sizeable empire.

JON ASHWORTH

## A divergence of opinion

### GILT-EDGED

The peseta's decline in the ERM grid poses new questions for gilt investors. Since John Major managed to take sterling into the ERM last October, the strength of the Spanish currency has been seen widely as an obstacle to interest rate cuts in Britain.

Now, a weakening peseta is putting an even more severe constraint on the Chancellor's room for action on rates by knocking the floor from under the sterling/mark exchange in the ERM grid.

The strong peseta did not stand in the way of a fall of more than 300 basis points in sterling deposit rates between October and May. In this period, the Bank of Spain obligingly amassed foreign currency reserves and thereby relieved its ERM partners of much of the burden of responding to the straining peseta cross-rates.

The weak peseta promises to be much less benign. First, it has allowed the possibility of a weaker sterling rate against the mark. Foreign exchange operators have

caught on to this point in taking the pound well below its mark central rate. The peseta's slide is a demonstration that high interest rates are

no longer enough to underpin a fundamentally weak unit's position in the ERM grid. The 200 basis point spread between sterling and mark three-month deposit rates has ceased to be a reliable prop for the pound.

In the near term, the loss of interest rate sensitivity in the ERM may well give the Chancellor more freedom to cut base rates than the consensus of commentators has been willing to admit. After all, if high interest rates no longer confer strength on a currency in the ERM, there is little to be gained from delaying an interest rate cut.

On the other hand, the longer-term implications of this change in ERM behaviour carry risks for British financial markets, since even a substantial interest rate differential over Germany may be insufficient to ward off sterling sellers if, for example, an election campaign unsettles confidence in the pound.

At the root of this potential problem for the government's market managers is the collapse of the convergence theory in the ERM. This theory, which had dominated

the performance of European bond markets, including gilts, until recently, held that yields in the national bond markets of the ERM bloc would converge as the disciplines of the mechanism caused inflation rates similarly to converge.

This conviction was reinforced when EC governments appeared to be making progress towards the even tighter grouping implied in European economic and monetary union.

Confidence in this process has now shattered. The January 1, 1994 starting point for stage two of the Delors plan, accepted by all EC heads of government bar one last October, now looks ambitious.

Sluggish economic conditions in most of western Europe contrast with the buoyancy of demand in Germany. It looks less credible that in any future EMU a common monetary policy could be framed that would be appropriate for all of the EC.

Karl Otto Pöhl, outgoing head of the Bundesbank, has articulated these concerns while emphasising that EC central bankers see not the inflation convergence the

markets have backed, but EC divergence on inflation and fiscal policies for at least the next two or three years.

When Britain joined the ERM, the yield spread between ten-year gilts and German government bonds narrowed by about 100 basis points. This was a measure of the market's confidence that Britain would benefit from inflation convergence under the ERM.

Since mid-May, when the convergence theory was first questioned, the British-German bond yield spread has shifted 25 basis points in the opposite direction. This is a fairly modest movement compared with the swing of more than 50 basis points against French government bonds on a comparison with their German equivalents.

The French reaction has occurred despite the decline in French inflation this year to level with West Germany's. The conclusion is that gilts are dear compared with bonds in other European markets. A further rise in ten-year gilt yields of at least 25 basis points, to bring gilts back into line with French bonds, seems likely in the near term.

STEPHEN LEWIS  
Fifth Horseman Publications

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\$231.5m	Provident	46	-2	0.7	1.8	-
14.1m	Real Bros	35	-2	0.7	1.9	-
\$66.6m	Ryl Bk Scot	179	● -1	11.2	6.5	8.4
\$68.8m	Schwab	810	-3	18.7	2.3	18.1
\$93.3m	Stem Chart	339	-10	26.7	7.9	18.0
		\$44.4	1b	-0.7	-	-

570,771	Days	369	..	18.7	4.8	1
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74.9m	Dowling & Mills	58	+2	3.2	5.7	1
3,685,000	EMC	68	-1	1.3	1.9	1
501.2m	Electrocomponents	244	+2	8.8	3.6	1
13.1m	Eng Data Process	152	+7	5.3	3.8	1
5,166,000	Electron House	20	..	2.8	14.0	1

18,288	Engineering	37	1.8	43	12.4
69,616	Bridges	123	-3	10.7	8.7 8.1
907,000	Bridges-Gundry	48	..	5.1	10.8 24.5
1,084,000	Electricity Inv	40	..	..	..
200,000	Br. Bldg & Eng App	356	..	1.7	0.5 47.2
51,500	Br. Polythene	283	+5	11.0	3.9 12.0
620,000	Br. Steel	131	-4	11.5	8.6 4.0

\$59.00	Thomson (GPO)	100	0	0.7	6.4	18.8
26.7m	TIGR	89	0	0.1	..	..
\$60.4m	Torinson	348	-4	12.5	3.8	10.8
1,280.8m	Tridinger H	254	0-2	24.5	9.6	11.9
23.4m	Transfer Tech	4	0	0.8	7.6	0.7
59.9m	Triplex Lloyd	114	-6	9.3	8.2	12.7
170.5m	Unichem	174	0-1	6.0	3.4	21.6

10,523.00	Brown Gum	267	18.7	6.8	16
17,948.00	Pr Petroleum	354	21.7	6.5	10
988.10	Burmah Control	582	39.2	6.8	16
31.36	Calm Energy	129			
361.44	Calc Go	215	18.0	7.4	17
5,333.00	Campen Oil	72			
45.44	Campen	165			

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## Court of Appeal

## Lifting corporate veil over funds

**Atlas Maritime Co SA v Avalon Maritime Ltd (No 3)**  
Before Lord Donaldson of Lynton, Lord Justice Nicholls and Lord Justice Finkelstein  
(Judgment June 14)

In exercising the *Mareva* jurisdiction, to freeze assets pending the outcome of litigation, the court should not limit its consideration to funds to which a defendant has a legal right if there are reasonable grounds for believing that monies could be made available to him from other sources.

Where, therefore, a defendant company, which was subject to a *Mareva* injunction, sought the release of monies from the frozen fund to meet its legal expenses, but whose circumstances suggested a close financial involvement with the parent company, the court was entitled to lift the corporate veil and decline to grant the release sought, if it was satisfied that the parent company would make the necessary funds available so as not to impede the defendant company from resisting the claim against it.

The Court of Appeal so held allowing an appeal by Atlas Maritime Co SA from Mr Justice Phillips who had granted an application by the defendant Avalon Maritime Ltd, for the release of monies to meet legal expenses from a fund of US\$4 million which was subject to a *Mareva* injunction granted in March 1989 in proceedings, later referred to arbitration, for breach of contract in respect of an agreement for the sale of the plaintiffs' vessel, the Coral Rose, by the defendant company.

Mr Jonathan Gaisman for the plaintiffs, Mr Iain Milligan, QC, for the defendant.

**THE MASTER OF THE ROLLS** said that the fundamental principle underlying the grant of a *Mareva* injunction, which had been restated by the Court of Appeal in *Derby v Weyman* (No 3) and (1990) 1 All ER 65, 76-77, was that, within the limits of its powers, no court should permit a defendant to take action designed to ensure

that subsequent orders of the court were rendered less effective than would otherwise be the case; that on the other hand it was not its purpose to prevent a defendant carrying on business in the ordinary way nor to impede him in any way from defending himself against the claim. Nor was its purpose to place the plaintiff in the position of a secured creditor.

In the present case, the regime under which the defendant lived, moved and had its being commercial and legal sophistication. His Lordship traced its relationship, through nominee companies, with the parent company Marc Rich & Co AG, a Swiss company primarily involved in the commodity trades.

In 1987 a vessel, the Coral Rose, had been bought by the defendant for US\$2,925,000. The evidence showed that the financial machinery for the transaction and all expenditure in connection with the vessel was for Marc Rich AG or its United Kingdom based subsidiary, Marc Rich & Co Ltd, to make the payments and debit them to an account kept in the name of the defendant, the Avalon account.

In June 1989 the defendant had applied to the court to discharge the *Mareva* on the footing that its only assets were the frozen fund and that it was required to pay Marc Rich who were its business creditors, last demanded payment and were entitled to be paid.

The judge had refused the application (see [1990] 2 Lloyd's Rep 258) and on appeal (see CA Transcript No 1033 of 1990) the Court of Appeal considered it appropriate to "lift and look behind" the corporate veil in the sense of having regard to the sharing of the purpose of the decision whether it would be equitable to discharge the injunction.

As a result of so doing the court concluded that the monies owed to Marc Rich were to be regarded as trading capital rather than an ordinary routine trading debt, and that it was not appropriate to permit repay-

ment where the creditor was the sole beneficial shareholder in the corporate company. That decision was relevant to the extent that it entitled the court now to peek behind the corporate veil, as his Lordship had done. But the decision was distinguishable from the present appeal in that now the release of funds was for payment to a third party who were the defendant's legal advisers to meet its legal expenses.

His Lordship considered that Mr Justice Phillips had failed to direct himself that he could and should lift the corporate veil. There was no doubt that the variation order by the judge was "designed to ensure" in the sense that it would produce that result, that in so far as the frozen fund was used for the payment to the legal advisers it would be in favour of the plaintiffs less likely to be rendered less effective.

That was not of itself a fatal objection to monies being released because of the proviso built into what his Lordship had described as the fundamental principle. But that proviso only applied in cases in which the operation of the fund would not impede the person enjoined from defending himself against the claim.

His Lordship referred to the affidavit evidence that the defendant had no assets apart from the frozen fund. But that lack of unfrozen funds would in no way impede its defence of the plaintiffs' claim. If it could nevertheless obtain the necessary funds. There was no evidence that no such funds were obtainable in precisely the way the defendant's funds had always been obtained, namely by drawing on the Marc Rich Avalon account.

Essentially, the defendant asserted that it was unable to pay its legal expenses other than out of the frozen fund, because it had no legal right to require Marc Rich to pay them.

His Lordship referred to the approach adopted by the Court of Appeal in *Derby v Weyman* (No 3) (1990) 1 All ER 65, 76-77, in exercising the quasi-equitable statutory jurisdiction under the Matrimonial Causes Act 1973.

## Law Report June 24 1991

## Queen's Bench Division

## Lifting corporate veil over funds

There the evidence showed that the trustees of a discretionary trust, of which the wife was a beneficiary, had always acted in accordance with her wishes so that she had had immediate access to funds whenever she required them. The Court of Appeal had held that full account should be taken of the availability of the fund.

In exercising the equitable *Mareva* jurisdiction the court should adopt a similar approach and not limit its consideration to funds to which the party concerned had a legal right, if there were reasonable grounds for believing that it could obtain money otherwise.

In the light of the history of financial dealings between Marc Rich and the defendant and the fact that the defendant was satisfied that Marc Rich would make funds available to the defendant to enable it to meet the costs of defending the claim.

Since his Lordship was satisfied that the judge misdirected himself in failing to look behind the corporate veil at the financial relationship between Marc Rich and the defendant, it became the duty of the Court of Appeal to set aside the judge's decision and to exercise his discretion afresh.

The defendant never had any funds which it controlled independently of Marc Rich. If it needed money, however small, it was provided by Marc Rich and debited to the Marc Rich Avalon account. If it received any sum, however small, it was at once credited to that account and so repaid to Marc Rich.

In the light of that relationship, and in the absence of any denial by the former that funds would continue to be made available to meet the defendant's legal costs, his Lordship considered that it would not be right or just to vary the injunction and accordingly he set aside the judge's order.

Lord Justice Nicholls delivered a concurring judgment and Lord Justice Finkelstein agreed with both judgments.

Solicitors: Stephenson Harwood; Clyde & Co.

## Regina v Secretary of State for the Home Department, Ex parte Minna

## Before Mr Justice Hutchison (Judgment June 3)

Where the validity of a claim of a person seeking entry to be a British citizen was challenged, the only way that person could establish his status and the attendant freedom of entry and attendance was by the production of a United Kingdom passport. It was not open to him to tender, nor incumbent on the immigration officer to consider other evidence in proof of his claim.

MR JUSTICE HUTCHISON said that Miss Foster had argued that section 3(2) of the 1971 Act, as substituted by section 3(2) of the 1988 Act, provides: "A person shall not be entitled to appeal on the ground that he has a right of abode in the United Kingdom unless he holds such a passport or certificate as is mentioned in section 3(9) above."

MR PHILIP ENGLAND for the applicant, Miss Alison Foster for the secretary of state.

MR JUSTICE HUTCHISON said that section 3(2) of the 1971 Act, as amended by the 1988 Act, was complementary so that where a question arose the only way that a person could discharge the burden was by the production of a United Kingdom passport describing him as a British citizen having the right of abode. There was no discretion to accept other means of proof and a BVP was not a United Kingdom passport.

Miss Foster accepted that her argument meant that anyone presenting himself at a port of entry without a passport or whose passport had expired or with a BVP might be refused entry.

The applicant maintained that he was John Kwasimintia, a Ghanaian, who had been in the UK in October 1963, evidenced by a birth certificate and was therefore a British citizen. Minna Kwasimintia was his family name but he called himself Minna for ease of use.

Section 3(8) of the Immigration Act 1971 requires a person asserting British citizenship to prove it.

Section 3(9) of the 1971 Act, as substituted by section 3(1) of the Immigration Act 1988, provides: "A person seeking to enter the United Kingdom and claim to be a British citizen shall produce to the immigration officer a passport or certificate as is mentioned in section 3(9) above."

Such business would be: (1) Injunctions; (2) Commitments to and release from prison; (3) Custody, access and any other application relating to a child's care; (4) Any matter which had been certified by a district judge as being fit for vacation business subject, in the case of hearings in August, to the estimated length of hearing not exceeding one day.

## certificates of entitlement ...

## certifying that he has such a right of abode.

Section 13(2) of the 1971 Act, as substituted by section 3(2) of the 1988 Act, provides: "A person shall not be entitled to appeal on the ground that he has a right of abode in the United Kingdom unless he holds such a passport or certificate as is mentioned in section 3(9) above."

MR PHILIP ENGLAND for the applicant, Miss Alison Foster for the secretary of state.

MR JUSTICE HUTCHISON said that section 3(2) of the 1971 Act, as amended by the 1988 Act, was complementary so that where a question arose the only way that a person could discharge the burden was by the production of a United Kingdom passport describing him as a British citizen having the right of abode. There was no discretion to accept other means of proof and a BVP was not a United Kingdom passport.

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## entry and required to conduct

## any appeal from abroad.

She also accepted that British citizens, particularly those from ethnic minorities, would not be well advised to travel on BVPs. His Lordship's conclusion was that section 3(9), properly construed, did require on entry proof by the stated means and by no other means.

It appeared reasonably clear from the way in which the 1988 Act amended section 3 that Parliament's intention was to eliminate the distinction which previously existed between those whose claims to British citizenship were based on section 3(9A)(b) grounds and others by making all British citizens subject to section 3(9).

The words of the subsection were susceptible to one construction only that all persons claiming to have the right of abode should when seeking to enter, prove that right by the stated means. There was, given the amendment, no basis for distinguishing between classes of British citizens entitled to the right of abode.

The alterations effected by the amendment to section 3(3) supported the conclusion. Previously that section applied only to persons within section

## 3(9) and only certain types of

## British citizen were within section 3(9). Now section 13(3) was not so limited.

His Lordship reached that conclusion without enthusiasm. The consequences were unpalatable.

It was an unhappy result of the legislation that British citizens, entitled to enter and leave the United Kingdom at will, should, for lack of proof by the specified means, be liable to be turned away on returning from a day trip to France in a case court of which they furnish their passports and be compelled to set about obtaining a replacement while remaining in France.

It was to be hoped that in the ordinary way persons, who for one reason or another, were not in a position to furnish the specified means of proof, would be granted limited leave to enter, in order that they might, from inside the United Kingdom, either obtain the requisite documents or furnish proof by some other means, as once admitted section 3(8) entitled them to do.

Solicitors: Raja & Co, Batham; Treasury Solicitor.

## Family vacation business

**Practice Direction: (Family Division; Long Vacation 1991)**  
The Senior District Judge (Mr Gerald Angel) issued a District Judge's Direction on May 1, with the approval of the President of the Family Division, concerning business to be taken at the Royal Courts of Justice in the long vacation 1991.

Such business would be: (1) Injunctions; (2) Commitments to and release from prison; (3) Custody, access and any other application relating to a child's care; (4) Any matter which had been certified by a district judge as being fit for vacation business subject, in the case of hearings in August, to the estimated length of hearing not exceeding one day.

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In any case in category 3, the time estimate had to be signed by the solicitor making the application, or by counsel if instructed, it would only be in rare circumstances that a case, accepted for vacation business on a basis of an estimate of not more than one day but which took longer, would continue to be heard during the vacation after the first day.

In any case in category 4, a certificate signed by the solicitor who made the application, or by counsel if instructed, had to be supplied to the district judge stating that, in his opinion, giving reasons, the matter was such that it should be heard during the vacation and giving the time estimate.

Whether the Clerk of the Rules tried an application within category 3 or a district judge accepted an application within category 4 as vacation business, would be entirely a matter for his or her discretion.

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# Bringing history back to life

Museums are determined to play a more active part in schooling. David Tytler speaks to David Anderson, of the V&A, and finds out how institutions are adding child appeal

Sometimes nobody over the age of 12 can get near the Ming vase in the Victoria & Albert Museum, the space capsule at the Science Museum or the dinosaurs in the Natural History Museum for the hordes of schoolchildren, drawing, writing and talking.

School trips are already a fundamental and familiar part of museum life. David Anderson, the recently appointed head of education at the V&A, in Kensington, says, however, that more visits should be encouraged, and many schools and teachers are not getting the full benefit from them.

Mr Anderson, who previously worked at the National Maritime Museum in Greenwich, south London, believes the national curriculum will bring new opportunities for all museums, particularly the V&A. The V&A's specialist collections of Indian, European and Chinese artefacts lie, he says, at the centre of the history curriculum.

He says the introduction of the national curriculum means that teachers, particularly in primary schools, will come, more than ever, to rely on museum collections, most of which make no charge for school parties. But new ways have to be found to provide a better service for schools and to attract more of them to use the museum's superb facilities.

Mr Anderson says: "We can make a special contribution to the learning of children from five to eight, but some primary schools feel insecure about using museums. We in museums have not done much in the training of teachers; we could play an important part in their classroom work."

He thinks that museums could work with other groups, such as the Arts Council, to provide more support for teachers, and he hopes to launch a five-year research project into the way that schools use museums.

"There is a lot of good practice in national and local museums," he says. "We can all teach each other but we need to know precisely how we can benefit children and how we can best help teachers in providing suitable in-service training courses. This is a national responsibility and should be linked with regional and local museums if we are to make substantial differences."

All the national museums have education departments wanting to help schools, which provide a significant number of visitors every year. The V&A has always had strong links with colleges and students, particularly in art and design and fashion history. Students make up about 25 per cent of the museum's million visitors a year, although schoolchildren account for only between 5

and 10 per cent. "The V&A's figures are quite typical," Mr Anderson says, "but we want to raise the average." The aim is to push the figure to between 10 and 15 per cent. About 12 million child visits are made to British museums every year.

The Natural History Museum gets 1.6 million visitors a year, of which 180,000 come in school parties, and the figure is rising as teachers increasingly rely on museums for parts of the national curriculum, such as geology, for primary schoolchildren.

No charge is made for parties that pre-book, and teachers are encouraged to visit the teacher centre before the school visit in order to plan their requirements.

Nearly 4.8 million people visited the British Museum last year, of whom 59,216 were individual children, in addition to 1,618 school groups which ranged from 30 to 100 children. The Science Museum saw 1,303,345 visitors, of whom 261,840 were children in school parties.

Mr Anderson's main task is to extend the V&A's service to schools, adult education and the local multi-cultural community. The V&A was established after the 1851 Great Exhibition with "a clarity of vision" that still impresses Mr Anderson. The museum's founders wanted to take art to the people so they would become knowledgeable consumers of

*'We need a plan to reach a larger audience of schools, families and minorities'*

the improved industrial art and design that would be encouraged by the museum, which would also assist the newly formed schools of art and reformed colleges of design.

Mr Anderson says: "We have a long history of serving schools - many of our exhibitions are aimed at families - but we need a strategy to reach a new and larger audience of schools, families, minorities and the local community."

The V&A is to appoint a head of schools, together with two museum teachers. A new education centre will open in 1993 and a wider range of teacher resources will be available. The museum is also considering funding a national curriculum centre for design technology, possibly in conjunction with a local school.

Mr Anderson hopes that teachers and training tutors will make regular visits to the centre to keep up to date with the events programme. "We want them to feel a sense of ownership to break down the us-and-them feeling," he says. "Teachers and students need guidance on how to use museums and libraries because they can be daunting." He hopes, too, to develop ways



Learning the art of appreciation: Ian Gwatkin, at the Victoria & Albert museum

in which individuals can get help from the museum in planning their own courses, particularly for local communities. "People will say what they want and, with our help, be able to create their own course," he says.

The museum's new Tsui Chinese gallery has objects from 3000BC to the 20th century. It was designed using information

from a survey, which found that many visitors think too little information is available on individual exhibits such as the Manchu woman's robe. What is it for - is it a dressing gown or for wearing to work? Visitors also want an insight into the significance of the garment, such as the fact that it took four years to make and is the only surviving example.

## College is put to test

THE first detailed study of a city technology college has found that it is making dramatic changes in the sixth form but there is little difference between its curriculum for pupils under 16 and that of other state schools.

Geoffrey Walford and Henry Miller, lecturers at Aston university, have studied Kingshurst college, in Solihull, near Birmingham, since 1989, a year after it became the first CTC to open. Their findings were published last week in *City Technology College*, a 170 page paperback.

The book sees the decision to substitute the International Baccalaureate and Business and Technician Education Council qualifications for A-levels as the most revolutionary change. Kingshurst was the first school to offer Baccalaureate, a practice since encouraged by ministers.

Although the authors found that Kingshurst had failed in the aim of acting as a catalyst for change in other schools, they could not establish whether or not local authority provision had been badly affected. Most of the pupils had chosen the CTC because it was considered a better school, rather than through a particular aptitude for technology.

risk any demonstration by these people."

## Not so green

ENVIRONMENTAL education is being neglected in schools, despite its status as a cross-curricular theme in the national curriculum, according to the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds.

In an introduction to the society's report, "The Vital Link", the Prince of Wales writes that a sound environmental education is essential for the well-being of wildlife populations. Surveys by the society have found that coverage in schools is patchy.

David Elcome, the society's head of information, says: "Most schools are tending to ignore the curriculum guidance on environmental education because it has no statutory force. It relies entirely on the presence of an enthusiastic teacher."

## Rights course

THE Consumers' Association has joined forces with Edge Hill college of higher education, at Ormskirk, Lancashire, to produce a teacher education project aimed at promoting knowledge of consumer affairs in schools. A development officer will spend two years at the college designing a package.

## Reading choice



LORD Carrington, above, the former foreign secretary who was the government's first choice to chair the talks on the future of Northern Ireland, is to be the next chancellor of Reading university. He succeeds Lord Sheffield next year. Lord Carrington was awarded the honorary degree of doctor of letters by the university in 1989. Dr Ewan Page, the vice-chancellor, says: "We shall greatly value his diplomatic skills and his strength of personality."

JOHN O'LEARY

## Lambs chopped

THE threat of a demonstration by animal rights activists forced a primary school to abandon the highlight of its fête last Saturday. Robert Le Kyng School, in Swindon, Wiltshire, had planned to run its usual races, in which sponsored lambs in greyhound jackets are cheered on over a short course.

Jan Hughes, the director of Swindon Animal Welfare Alliance, claimed that the event would degrade the lambs. She said: "I do not think we should be bringing our children up to laugh or ridicule animals."

The headteacher, Fiona Dally, said: "The children are very disappointed that because of pressure from outsiders we have no option but to stop our lamb racing. The shepherd would just be rattling his bucket with food in it as he does every night when he calls the lambs to their pen. They would just be running over to him like they do in the field, but I can't

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Further particulars may be obtained from the Secretary, All Souls College, Oxford OX1 2AL. Applications must reach the Secretary not later than 1st October 1991.

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Salary for each Fellowship will be in the range £12,000 to £18,000, depending on the work area and experience.

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Application forms for Qualifying Responses and an Introductory Note giving details of the Fellowship Scheme may be obtained from:

Head of R & D  
NRA Head Office  
Buckingham House  
30/34 Albert Embankment  
London SE1 7TL  
Tel: 071-820 1603

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Further particulars (please quote ref. 91/7) may be obtained from the Personnel Office at the address below. Closing date: 31 July 1991.

**LECTURESHIP IN ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LINGUISTICS**

Tenable from 1 January 1992, or such other date as may be arranged. Duties will include making a substantial contribution to the teaching of English language and linguistics, and applicants must have active research interests in this field.

Salary scales: Lecturer Grade A: £12,695 - £17,692 (minimum at age 27 or over: £14,172), or should suitably qualified applicants be presented, Lecturer Grade B: £18,330 - £23,427 per annum, with eligibility for USS. Assistance with relocation at appropriate.

Further particulars (please quote ref. 91/7) may be obtained from the Personnel Office, The Queen's University of Belfast, Northern Ireland, BT7 1NN (telephone (0232) 245133 ext. 3044 or FAX (0232) 324944). Closing date: 31 July 1991. The University is an Equal Opportunity employer.

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Further details are available from: The Clerk to the Governors of Alleyn's School, c/o Dulwich College, London SE21 7LD to whom applications must be returned by the 10th July, 1991.

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The Governors invite applications for the Headship of the school, made vacant after 13 years service, by the appointment of Mr Stuart Morris to the Headmastership of Kolej Tamku Ja'far in Malaysia.

Application forms and job description may be obtained from the Clerk to the Governors, Papplewick School, Ascot, Berkshire SL5 7LH. Closing date for applications July 31 1991.

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Salary will be within the range £11,969 - £14,170 pa on the Grade 18 Scale for Research and Analogous Staff.

Further details may be obtained from the Personnel Officer, Old Shire Hall, Durham DH1 3HP. (Tel: 091 374 4667) to whom applications should be sent not later than 31 July 1991. Please quote reference A027.



Hearn avoids McCallum and Graham to keep his champion cashing in on the domestic gravy train

# Eubank is simply best of the rest

By SRIKUMAR SEN, BOXING CORRESPONDENT

THE "Simply the Best" tag of Chris Eubank, the Brighton middleweight, has worn thin after yet another controversial victory, this time over Michael Watson, of Islington, on Saturday.

Barry Hearn, the promoter of the World Boxing Organisation champion, no longer wants to pit Eubank against the best in the world to prove the boxer's claim — until such time, it seems, as his other more profitable options have worn transparently thin as well.

Hearn was not interested in men like Mike McCallum, the World Boxing Association champion, or Herol Graham, the British champion. They had no drawing power. "What can McCallum bring?" Hearn said. Ignoring a top-of-the-head remark of "some danger" from a leading boxing writer, Hearn, somewhat disparagingly, said: "£5,000 from Jamaican television?"

After his full house of 13,000 at Earls Court, it was best to keep on cashing in on domestic rematches involving Eubank, Watson and Nigel Benn. Why struggle to fill a hall trying to establish a man as a true champion when you think you can fill a football field in a "Leonard-Hearn-Duran type of situation" and make a lot of money?

Graham, who is used to being side-stepped because he knows he can "stand both Eubank and Watson on their heads in the same ring, the same day", dismissed the performances of both men.

"It was a good fight for the third division," he said. "How can Eubank say he is simply the best when he hasn't boxed the best? It seems to me I'm the best and he is just simple."

Graham was right. The boxing was not world championship quality. Neither man was able to dominate. Watson looked tentative and out of touch and often over-reached himself, while Eubank was quite incapable of taking the initiative. Both were flagging towards the end, Eubank more than Watson and more as a result of their struggle to make the weight than through taking blows.

Thus the crowd, who, in the main, were made of Watson supporters, loved the final stages as their man tried to finish a rapidly tiring Eubank. But they hated the decision of the judges, who gave it to Eubank 7-4, 7-5, 6-6, and booed and pressed forward shaking their fists and spitting abuse at the judges.

Television and radio also thought Watson had won but most other ringiders were split down the middle and ran around seeking people of like minds. "Watson won by a mile," reporters said. "In America, Watson would have got it because he was going forward." They had forgotten that two Americans and a Puerto Rican were the judges.

General thought Watson had won by two rounds while his trainer, Brendan Ingle, gave it to Eubank by three. Johnny Nelson, the European cruiserweight champion and



Grunt and grimace: Watson, left, takes a punch from Eubank in their WBO middleweight bout at Earls Court

Graham's stablemate, made it a draw.

At the final bell, I was absolutely convinced Watson had won. There was no need even to look at my notes. My general impressions were enough. Watson's continuous forward movement seemed to have ground Eubank down.

Overall, Watson appeared to have been the better boxer

and landed the better blows while Eubank was all wild swings.

Yet looking through my notes, I found, in fact, unidirectional though he looked, Eubank had put away enough rounds while he was still fresh in the first half to win by at least one round. Watson, while appearing to look busy, too often walked on to the punches of

the retreating champion. Once, in the fifth round, he received a tremendous right hand from Eubank.

Eubank admitted he was struggling to keep up appearances at the end but believed he had done enough. "I won the first six or seven rounds," he said. "I outboxed him for the first half and stayed with him for the remainder. I had it

wrapped up in the first seven rounds and, after that, I began to feel the weight-making. I need a rest. I have been in training for eight months."

Watson said: "I thought I gave him a boxing lesson. What more can I do?" He can set the record straight when he comes back for his next big payday in the British round-robin.

## ATHLETICS

# Injury threatens Backley's place in European Cup

By DAVID POWELL, ATHLETICS CORRESPONDENT

STEVE Backley, the Commonwealth and European javelin champion, may have to withdraw from Britain's team for its defence of the European Cup next weekend after injuring himself throwing for Loughborough students yesterday. Backley went straight to the treatment room after tearing an adductor muscle on his opening throw.

After sending his javelin 90 metres in warm-up, Backley was looking for a big one — at least to improve his personal best of 90.98m — in the competition against teams representing the Amateur Athletic Association and British students.

He had been disappointed at throwing 88m in his first competition of the season, against Germany on Wednesday, but was ready to do better.

Using the new aerodynamically advantageous Sandvik javelin, the model used this season by Seppo Raty, of Finland, to take the world record to 96.96m, Backley had to apply the brakes as he was about to release his first throw.

"I had to abort, but I still threw 80 metres," he said after throwing 79.78m. "That javelin is going to go 100 metres, no doubt about that."

Of his European Cup prospects, he said: "I do not know the extent of the injury. At this stage, I am still competing, but you do not know how a fresh injury is going to react."

Jack Buckner, the former European 5,000 metres champion, exceeded his own expectations in his first race of his comeback, confirming that he is steering a course towards the world championships in Tokyo this summer. Although

he finished only fourth in the 3,000 metres, his time augured well for the longer distance.

Competing for Loughborough students, Buckner made a move for victory with 200 metres to go, but admitted that his excitement at being back had overruled his better judgment.

"I should have stayed where I was," Buckner, now recovered from his foot, Achilles tendon and back trouble, said. "I had forgotten what it was like to be struggling down the home straight."

Buckner, a bronze medal-winner at the last world championships, in 1987, was adequately compensated by his time, 7min 54.77sec. Translated into 5,000 metres potential, he believes he might be capable of 13min 20sec at the British trials for Tokyo five weeks hence, if such a time proves necessary. On Wednesday next week in

Stockholm, he will run his first 5,000 metres since the Commonwealth Games in January last year.

"Beforehand, I would have settled for 7min 54sec, but you know what this sport is like. It is never satisfying. As soon as you do something, you want to do something else. I could have done a bit better if I had run more sensibly."

Given that the match was a trial for the World Student Games, to be held in Sheffield next month, Jon Brown's victory over Buckner was a pointer to a potential gold medal in those championships.

Brown, on a scholarship at Iowa State University, will be among the favourites for the 10,000 metres in Sheffield. His winning time was 7min 53.93sec, outstripping Paul Taylor, who was second in 7min 54.20sec, and Billy Dee, third in 7min 54.55sec.

## Ottey records fastest

BERLIN (Reuters) — Merlene Ottey, of Jamaica, clocked the best 200 metres time this year with a superb display of graceful sprinting at the Berlin international meeting yesterday.

The former Olympic bronze medal winner, aged 31, was fast out of her blocks and powered effortlessly off the bend to finish in 22.05sec. Danette Young, of the United States, finished second in 22.36sec, with Heike Drechsler, of Germany, third in 22.60sec.

Peter Rono and Paul Ereng, Kenya's middle-distance Olympic champions, suffered defeats, while Little Leatherwood continued her fine form over 400 metres.

□ Lapinlahti, Finland: Ben Johnson finished fourth in the 100 metres at the Midsummer Games meeting yesterday, clocking 10.40sec for his fastest time of the year (AP reports). Johnson clocked 10.54sec and 10.69sec outdoors in Spain last month.

Frankie Fredericks, of Namibia, won in 10.12sec, beating James Trape, of the United States, by 0.04sec. Devon Dunn, another US sprinter, took the 100 in 10.19sec.

Dean Stacey, of the United States, won the pole vault at 5.70m.

On Saturday, Arturo Barrios, of Mexico, the world 10,000 metres record holder, was only fifth in a 5,000 metres, in 13min 44.72sec, at Saarjari, Finland.

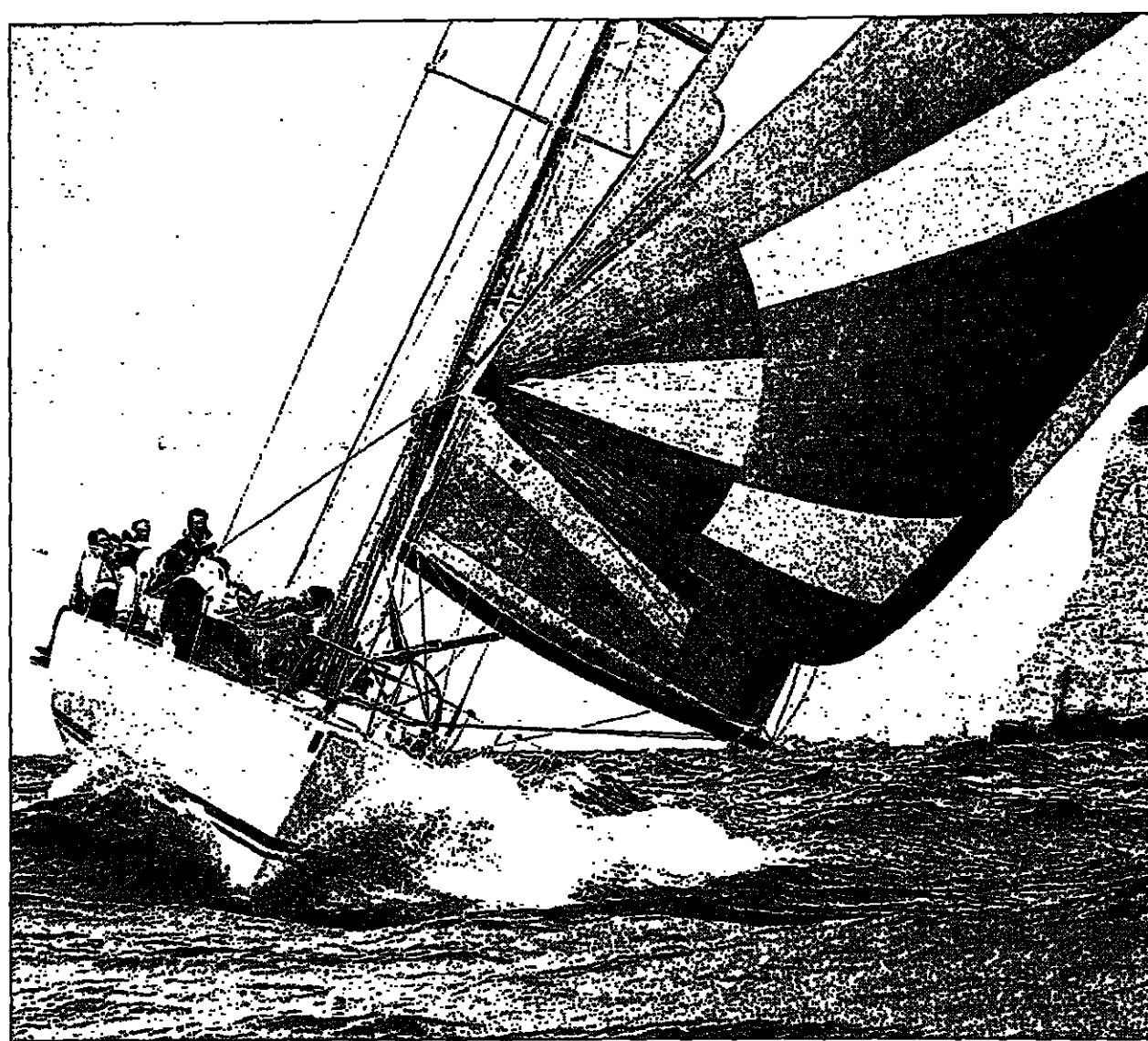
Simon Karori, of Kenya, won in 13min 24.13sec.

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Making waves: Dump Truck dominates the 600-strong fleet as it passes The Needles in the Channel handicap

## Minnows make the running

By BARRY PICKTHALL

PRIME honours in the annual Round the Island race on Saturday fell to two of the smallest boats among the 1,460 strong fleet. Darren Newton's 26ft catamaran, Dazcat, was the first over the line, and the 24ft 9in Folkboat class yacht, Periwinkle, won the Gold Round Island Bowl.

Four yachts, led by Michael Slade's Ocean 80 cruising yacht, Ocean Leopard, broke the 12-year-old monohull record and there were close contests between many of the One-design classes and level-rated yachts throughout the 52-mile course around the Isle of Wight.

One was the duel between two Admiral's Cup yachts, Mike Peacock's 50R Juno V, and the similar Jamaica entry, Will,

skipped by Eddie Warden Owen. For Will it was only her second sail since being shipped to Britain, from her New Zealand builder, for the Admiral's Cup series next month.

She held the edge on the strong beat down the Solent and rounded The Needles with a commanding lead over her British rival, Peacock and his crew reversed the order in Sandown Bay, but at the finish just four seconds divided them on corrected time.

The 600-strong Channel handicap fleet was dominated by Chrispin Hotson's latest 34ft Dump Truck, which led the monohulls past the Needles, and Crusader, the converted Twelve Metre yacht which represented Britain in the 1986-7 America's

Cup in Australia and had the former skipper, Harold Cudmore, re-united with her.

Dump Truck made all the running but the computer gave Crusader victory among the Class 1 yachts by a little under four minutes.

The bigger yachts suffered from a slackening wind off the south east coast, but by the time the smaller fry arrived under spinnakers, anemometers were reading Force 4-5 once more and the tidal stream was running full bore in their favour.

For the former 305 champion, Peter Bainbridge, helped only by a friend and their two 12-year-old children, it was just enough to give their traditional Folkboat cruiser, Periwinkle, a five-minute edge at the finish.

## Incidents prompt inquiry

THE Coastguard is to investigate why distress radio signals from two stricken yachts competing in this month's Azores and Back race from Falmouth were not picked up by the rescue authorities (Barry Pickthall writes).

The latest casualties are Mark Gatehouse and Anthony Boalch, his crewman, who were fortuitously rescued by a passing freighter early on Saturday after Queen Anne's Battery Marina, their 40ft catamaran, had collided with a whale.

According to the Coastguard centre at Falmouth, signals from their EPIRB emergency beacon were not intercepted by satellites or aircraft passing overhead.

Gatehouse and his crew, who won the outward leg of the short-handed race, from Falmouth to the Azores, were leading the fleet home on the return leg. Their craft, a converted Formula 40 multihull with minimal accommodation, was abandoned and the pair are now safely aboard the freighter, Ailsa, bound for Key West, Florida.

During the outward leg of the 2,000-mile race, Geoff Hales and Andrew Webster, his Australian crewman, were spotted by chance in their inflatable dinghy by the crew of an RAF Nimrod during a NATO exercise. Their yacht, Mini-tech, lost its keel and capsize seven days earlier after hitting an unseen object. Signals from their beacon also had not been intercepted.

The Coastguard has called on the Royal Cornwall Yacht Club, the race organisers, for details of the safety equipment carried on the two yachts.

## ROWING

# Cornell enjoy Marlow success

By MIKE ROSEWELL, ROWING CORRESPONDENT

CORNELL University, of the United States, who are entered for the upgraded Ladies Plate at Henley, won the Open eight at Marlow Regatta on Saturday with some ease against opposition with less lofty ambitions at the royal regatta. However, Peter Conl, the Henley champion, probably learned most about possible "selected" crews from the senior 1 and senior 2 eights.

In senior 1, the Henley Prize contenders, Bristol University had marginal wins over Oxford Polytechnic and Isis. Isis, with two recent blues on board, were not pleased when their Henley entry for the Thames Cup was upgraded by the Stewards and the Ladies' eight on Saturday's form, they could be out of their depth.

In the senior 2 eights, Eton swept aside 18 opponents, including three American schools they will face in the Princess Elizabeth Cup. Of Marlow Regatta, Eton's significant opposition could come from Shrewsbury.

The atmosphere at Marlow was marred by the activities of several non-rowing young people, and police made several arrests.

No such unpleasantness beset the fourth Henley women's regatta, where 166 crews, including the national squad, produced some high-class competition. Anne Marden, of the United States, dominated the open sculls, and Sue Appleboom, of Britain, re-enforced her lightweight claims. The Englishish "fish" international, Alison Gill, Annabel Eyles, Fiona Freckleton and Miriam Batten won the double sculls and coxless pairs.

Frontiers from the United States, nearly wasted their trip at the start of the final of the college fours, their bow girl parted from her slide, but they recovered to win.

RESULTS: Marlow: Eight: Open: Cornell University by Tideway Scullers, 3½ lengths; Isis, 2nd; Eton, 3rd; Eton, 4th; Eton, 5th; Eton, 6th; Eton, 7th; Eton, 8th; Eton, 9th; Eton, 10th; Eton, 11th; Eton, 12th; Eton, 13th; Eton, 14th; Eton, 15th; Eton, 16th; Eton, 17th; Eton, 18th; Eton, 19th; Eton, 20th; Eton, 21st; Eton, 22nd; Eton, 23rd; Eton, 24th; Eton, 25th; Eton, 26th; Eton, 27th; Eton, 28th; Eton, 29th; Eton, 30th; Eton, 31st; Eton, 32nd; Eton, 33rd; Eton, 34th; Eton, 35th; Eton, 36th; Eton, 37th; Eton, 38th; Eton, 39th; Eton, 40th; Eton, 41st; Eton, 42nd; Eton, 43rd; Eton, 44th; Eton, 45th; Eton, 46th; Eton, 47th; Eton, 48th; Eton, 49th; Eton, 50th; Eton, 51st; Eton, 52nd; Eton, 53rd; Eton, 54th; Eton, 55th; Eton, 56th; Eton, 57th; Eton, 58th; Eton, 59th; Eton, 60th; Eton, 61st; Eton, 62nd; Eton, 63rd; Eton, 64th; Eton, 65th; Eton, 66th; Eton, 67th; Eton, 68th; Eton, 69th; Eton, 70th; Eton, 71st; Eton, 72nd; Eton, 73rd; Eton, 74th; Eton, 75th; Eton, 76th; Eton, 77th; Eton, 78th; Eton, 79th; 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# Grease

By ANDREW LONGMORE, TENNIS CORRESPONDENT

Jimmy Connors takes his nineteenth, and perhaps his last, tilt at the Wimbledon windmill. Connors first played Wimbledon in 1972, the year Michael Chang, the youngest player in the men's singles, was born. If he reaches the second round, Connors will become the first man to play 100 singles matches at Wimbledon. At the twilight end of the age scale comes John McEnroe, 32 and father of three, who lost ignominiously in the first round to Derrick Rostagno 12 months ago, and is in no better form this time. He does at least have a kinder first round.

"That's a good bet," she said at Eastbourne last week when told her odds were 9/2. She looked mildly piqued at the insult, though rather more so, I suspect, by the one the seedings committee had delivered a few days earlier. The thought of being seeded three places higher than the nine-time champion might just have given Monica Seles vertigo, because her last-minute withdrawal has not yet been properly explained.

If Navratilova is the yardstick, who then is playing better than last year? Not Steffi Graf, who collapsed completely against Arantxa Sánchez Vicario in the semi-final of the French Open. Gabriela Sabatini and Sánchez Vicario certainly. Jana Novotna possibly.



**Record-breaker:** Navratilova, in winning form once again at Eastbourne, is seeking her tenth title

Buoyed by her success at the US Open, the Argentinian has been the best player in the women's game this year, winning five titles. She has discovered after six years that tennis can be fun and she has

been waiting all year to release her new-found aggression and confidence on the unsuspecting Wimbledon public. Her semi-final with Navratilova could be the match of the tournament.

Sánchez Vicario, with a game converted from clay, has improved immeasurably, as her form at Eastbourne last week showed. Novotna, with a game, though not as yet a temperament, made for

Whichever way you look at it, the course of the men's singles is straight and fast-flowing. The return of the prodigal son, Andre Agassi, the antics of Mac and Jimbo, Lendl's quest for the lost title, all are surely but tributaries to the main stream.

This afternoon, Stefan Edberg will start the defence of his title against Marc Rosset. Tomorrow, Boris Becker will, with his archer's stance, take aim for his fourth title and, barring floods - quite possible, if the weather forecast is to be believed - or injury, the two will meet for the fourth time in succession a fortnight hence. History, common sense and form suggest as much.

This year, it is Becker's turn, but their matches are so finely balanced, their talents so evenly matched, two weeks of competition often boil down to a matter of two missed volleys, like Becker's in last year's final. Edberg is the better prepared of the two, having won Queen's handsomely for the first time, but has shown a worrying weakness on service under pressure this year and has a

Lendl surely needs either one of those two to depart before his dream can be realised. Peter Sampras and Goran Ivanisavic, the US Open champion and Wimbledon semi-finalist respectively, have the talent to win their first title, though they have both had disastrous years so far.

Tipping Sampras is particularly hard because he has yet to win a match at Wimbledon, let alone seven on the trot. Both will find Pat Cash, the 1987 champion, a formidable foe in the top 32 of the draw. Other big servers Guy Forget, Michael Stich, and David Wheaton could also do some damage.

The British challenge provides safety in numbers at least: six in the men's draw and 13 in the women's. The All-England Club has obviously adopted the scatter effect to ensure that last year's debacle, when no British player reached the third round, does not occur again.

One of them must slip through this time, but Edberg and Sabatini are my choices to raise the old roof.

## DRAW FOR THE MEN'S SINGLES

First round	Second round	Third round	Fourth round	Quarter-finals	Semi-finals	Final
(1) S EDEBERG (Swe)						
M Rosset (Swe)						
P Blair (Ger)						
D Pate (US)						
W Panatta (SA)						
J Aguilera (Sp)						
C van Rensburg (SA)						
T Witsken (US)						
G Riccio (Fr)						
H Skoff (Aust)						
A Mouru (Ger)						
J Neuman (Fr)						
M Kirschner (Aust)						
S Stolle (Aust)						
J Okrusch (Br)						
(16) J McINROE (US)						
(10) G IVANSEVIC (Yug)						
A Casto (GB)						
M Brown (GB)						
M Kell (US)						
T Tarrigo (US)						
Cash (Aust)						
Champion (Fr)						
Wilkinson (GB)						
Connors (US)						
Pacheco (Fin)						
Kockstein (US)						
Pescopella (It)						
Rostagno (US)						
Furten (It)						
Marshall (Br)						
(9) P SAMPRAS (US)						
J COURBIER (US)						
Gibert (Fr)						
Marques (Fr)						
Grabb (US)						
Pacco (It)						
Pearce (US)						
Dyke (Aust)						
Borisch (Fr)						
Henners (Mex)						
Frans (Fr)						
Rosse (Br)						
Cumen (US)						
Sanchez (Sp)						
Kneek (US)						
Rigowski (Ger)						
(8) K NOVACEK (Cz)						
A CHERKASOV (USSR)						
Fienberg (US)						
Sapstford (GB)						
Wilder (Swe)						
Wolfs (Bel)						
Volkov (USSR)						
Jamyl (Swe)						
Sanford (Fr)						
Patiollet (It)						
Camposio (It)						
Michibata (Can)						
Stallenberg (Aust)						
Nargura (It)						
Woodford (Aust)						
Golde (US)						
M STICH (Ger)						
A AGASSI (US)						
Connell (Can)						
Prpic (Yug)						
Klemens (Neth)						
Larson (Swe)						
Lasarus (Neth)						
Crishman (Inde)						
Krakovic (Neth)						
Muller (SA)						
Arrese (Sp)						
Beve (US)						
Socassie (Ger)						
ogel (Cz)						
Ring (Neth)						
McEnroe (US)						
(7) E SANCHEZ (Sp)						
J HLASER (Switz)						
Hejthinec (Yug)						
Mayra (Fr)						
Goodbridge (Aust)						
Agde (Cz)						
Anderson (Swe)						
Andersson (Swe)						
Rebolledo (Chile)						
Sciana (Fr)						
Seyendicker (US)						
Heaton (US)						
Gerde (Cz)						
conemanns (Neth)						
Washington (US)						
vermeiden (Cz)						
LENDL (Cz)						
(6) FORGET (Fr)						
Storm (Bel)						
ustafsson (Swe)						
avel (Sp)						
scante (Fr)						

**DRAW FOR THE WOMEN'S SINGLES**

First round	Second round	Third round	Fourth round	Quarter-finals	Semi-finals	Final
(1) S GRAF (Ger)						
S Appelmans (Bel)						
C Powell (Ger)						
T Harper (US)						
K Rindell (US)						
M Hermanson (Fr)						
A Hennickson (US)						
Y Beaulieu (Indo)						
J Halard (Fr)						
N Medvedeva (USSR)						
D Gethorn (US)						
M Warden (US)						
F Bonalignon (It)						
R White (US)						
K Kashimura (Jap)						
(14) A FRAZZER (US)						
(12) A HUBER (Ger)						
V Martinik (Ger)						
T Whittinger (US)						
M Maleva (Bul)						
M Bollgraf (Neth)						
V Humphreys-Devies (GB)						
J Dune (GB)						
H Kallal (Can)						
N Miyagi (Japan)						
E Zardo (Switz)						
M Strandlund (Swe)						
R Hiraki (Japan)						
E Pampoukova (Bul)						
S Somero (GB)						
S Gomer (GB)						
(7) Z GARRISON (US)						
(4) A SANCHEZ VICARIO (Sp)						
B Ritter (Ger)						
F Romano (It)						
A Coetzer (SA)						
P Langrove (Cz)						
L McNeil (US)						
C Barlos (Switz)						
N Sawamatsu (Japan)						
J-K Flail (Aus)						
K Goodridge (Aus)						
A Minter (Aus)						
S Martin (US)						
D Fisher (US)						
C Caverzasio (It)						
G Fernandez (P Rico)						
(10) H SUKOWA (Cz)						
(19) J WISSNER (Austria)						
H Cotte (US)						
L Savchenko (USSR)						
A Tamasov (Hun)						
B Griffin (GB)						
C Khodakolech (Ger)						
N Jagerman (Neth)						
M Overman (Neth)						
P Striver (U)						
A Leand (US)						
E De Lona (US)						
S Rutoz (Arg)						
A Keller (US)						
L Golans (It)						
P Karmata (Neth)						
(3) M FERNANDEZ (US)						
(6) J NOVOTNA (Cz)						
M Pierce (Fr)						
S Schultz (Neth)						
Reinschelder (Austria)						
B Nagelsen (US)						
Broukhovets (USSR)						
S Smith (GB)						
I Provis (Aus)						
V Probst (Ger)						
C Siglerova (Cz)						
Culliva (Bul)						
V Van Lohum (Fr)						
Zrubakova (Cz)						
McQuillen (Aus)						
J Statford (US)						
(1) J CAPRIATI (US)						
(5) A CECCHINI (It)						
Smiley (Aus)						
Slocum (US)						
Suire (Fr)						
Chenongast (Fr)						
Lindqvist (Swe)						
Habaudova (Cz)						
Dahlman (Swe)						
Bentley (GB)						
Kidowaki (Japan)						
Garrone (It)						
Hagena (US)						
Dechume (Fr)						
Grunfield (GB)						
Reinach (SA)						
(1) M NAVRATLOVA (US)						
K K MALESEVA (Bul)						
Salmon (GB)						
Hand (GB)						
Grodanien (US)						

## Seedlings

**MEN'S DOUBLES:** 1, S E Davis and D Pata (US); 2, J B Fitzgerald (Aus) and A JARRY (Swe); 3, P Leach and J Pugh (US); 4, G Connell and G Michabata (Can); 5, G Muller and D T Visser (SA); 6, S Casal and E Sánchez (Sp); 7, P Galbraith and T Witsken (US); 8, T Woodbridge and M Woodford (Aus); 9, U Rügiewski and M Stich (Ger); 10, L B Jensen (US) and L Warder (US); 11, K Jones (US) and J Lozano (Mex); 12, P Haerhus and M Koevermans (Neth); 13, J Grabo and P McEnroe (US); 14, N Broad (GB) and K Curran (US); 15, W Ferreira and P Norval (SA); 16, B Dyke (Aus) and P Lundgren (Swe)

**WOMEN'S DOUBLES:** 1, G Feman-

daz (P Rico) and J Novotna (Cz); 2, Z Ljancic and N Zvereva (USSR); 3, A Serezhko and I Shvachkin (USSR); 4, S. Serezhko and H Sukovak (Cz); 4, M. Serezhko and Z Ljancic (Cz); 5, K Jordan and L.M. Garrison (US); 6, N Prows and P D Smyke (US); 7, S.W Magiers and R.H White (US); 8, M Navaraho and P.H Shiner (US); 9, E.M Burgin and P.A Fendick (US); 10, K.M Adams (US) and M Bollegger (Neth); 11, J.J Hettrich (US) and M Paz (Arg); 12, J.M Hettrich (US) and G.S. Rinaldi (US); 13, C Kohde-Kalchauer (Germ) and E Reich (Swiss); 14, N Tautou (Fr); 15, W Wiesner (Austria); 15, R.D Fairbank (UK); 16, B Schütz (Neth); 16, L.J Gregory (SA) and A May (US).

MIXED DOUBLES: 1, J Pugh (US) and N Zvereva (USSR); 2, J.P Fitzgerald and P.D Smidgen (US); 2, F.B.

Davis and R M White (US); 4. R Leach and Z L Garrison (US); 5. P Gelbraith and P A Fendick (US); 6. G Michalakis and J M Hetherington (Can); 7. D Whiston and M J Fernandez (US); 8. G Cornell (Can) and K S Rinaldi (US); 9. B T A Woodhouse and H Prosser (Aus); 10. D T Vasser (SA) and R D Fairbank; Nideffer (US); 11. K Flach and K Jordan (US); 12. J Llozano (Mex) and A Sanchez Vicano (Sp); 13. C Suk and H Salovey (Cz); 14. J Grabb and E M Burgin (US); 15. W Ferrel and L J Gregory (SA); 16. M Kratzmann (Aus) and P H Shriver (US).

**Prize money**  
(last year's amount in brackets):

**MEN'S SINGLES:** Champion: [£10,000]

**E120,000** (£115,000) Semi-finalists:  
**£90,000** (£75,500) Quarter-finalists:  
**£31,200** (£29,900)

**WOMEN'S SINGLES:** Champion:  
**£218,000** (207,000) Runner-up:  
**£108,000** (£103,500) Semi-finalists:  
**£62,900** (£59,315) Quarter-finalists:  
**£26,250** (£25,415)

**MEN'S DOUBLES** (per pair): Champion:  
**£39,300** (£39,230) Runners-up:  
**£17,400** (£17,110) Semi-finalists:  
**£26,230** (£24,180)

**WOMEN'S DOUBLES** (per pair): Champion:  
**£39,300** (£39,230) Runners-up:  
**£17,400** (£17,110) Semi-finalists:  
**£26,230** (£24,180)

**MIXED DOUBLES** (per pair): Champion:  
**£41,700** (£40,000) Runners-up:  
**£20,880** (£20,000) Semi-finalists:  
**£10,430** (£10,000)

## Cash milestones

**MEN:**

- 1969: Rod Laver, £2,000
- 1972: Stan Smith, £5,000
- 1974: Jimmy Connors, £10,000
- 1979: Bjorn Borg, £30,000
- 1982: Jimmy Connors, £41,667
- 1983: John McEnroe, \$66,600
- 1984: John McEnroe, £100,000
- 1987: Pat Cash, £155,000
- 1989: Boris Becker, £190,000
- 1990: Stefan Edberg, 230,000

**WOMEN:**

- 1958: Billie Jean King, £750
- 1972: Billie Jean King, £3,000
- 1976: Billie Jean King, £7,000
- 1978: Chris Evert, £10,000
- 1978: Martina Navratilova, £18,000
- 1982: Martina Navratilova, £37,000

1984: Martina Navratilova, £90,000  
1987: Martina Navratilova, £139,500  
1990: Martina Navratilova, £207,000

## Latest odds

Every British entrant in the men's and women's singles is quoted at 1,000-1 by William Hill, which says, "Punters have obviously fully realised the cost of misjudging a 'nat'." William Hill predicts a nationwide betting plunge of £5 million in the Wimbledon fortnight. It offers 50-1 that rain interrupts play on centre court every day and 6-1 that the temperature hits 90° during the tournament.

Stefan Edberg is 13/8 to win the men's title, with Boris Becker at 7/4, Ivan Lendl 1/32 and Andre Agassi 1/16.

the women's title, Martina Navratilova and Gabriela Sabatini 10/3

## Ticket sales

A total of 7,000 tickets for centre court (first nine days), court one (13 days), court two (first nine days), and grounds admission available at gates 3 and 15 on the day.

First come, first served, queues are long and dedicated. Admission after 5pm: £4.00.

## Programmes

Programmes available by writing to: Programme Publications Ltd., All England Lawn Tennis Club, Church Road, Wimbledon, London SW19 5AR.

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# Navrotilov a warning



## By ANDREW LONGMORE

preparation. He might win a couple of matches, but I'd be surprised if he reached the last 16 and I'll give you £100 if he reaches the quarter-finals."

Agassi would understand such talk. He has spent much

He understands his image, divorces himself from it in private and only occasionally sinks beneath it. He is also a breathtakingly talented player when he puts his mind to it and a hypnotic entertainer.

"Tradition has its place and it's there at Wimbledon. I like change and going to Wimbledon is a change in itself for me," he said. "The last time I was here, I didn't really have a clue as to find out what it was like. But I remember being intimidated by the surroundings."

So intimidated, he did not dare come back until he felt he was ready to do himself justice. For the past three years, Agassi has been telling anyone who cared to listen that he did not feel strong enough to play the French Open and Wimbledon inside six weeks. A strict regime of weight-training over the past few years had built up his strength, but even now that does not talk with the confidence of a man about to take the centre court by storm.

"This time, I am stronger, more capable of pulling it off

In other words, when Wimbledon meets Las Vegas this afternoon, expect the unexpected.



Andrea Strnadova  
Age: 19. Wimbledons: 0.  
Unseeded.  
Anyone can take on  
Navratilova's mantle, she is the  
one. A strapping girl from  
Prague, she was twice junior  
Wimbledon champion,  
beating Capriati, among  
others. Big serve and an  
equal game for grass, though  
not still a little wayward.

Just in the nick of time, Navratilova broke back and when she won the next five games, the Spaniard's doughty spirit was broken. Although her enjoyment had been apparent throughout the week, and her game a delightful mixture of power and cheek, beating Navratilova on grass was one step too far for Sánchez Vicario, who will still go to Wimbledon fortified that she is a match for all but the very best.

\_\_\_\_\_

**Figure 1**







## England finish in third place after penalty decider

**RESULTS:** Eleventh place play-off: Switzerland 2, Italy 1 Ninth place play-off: Belgium 3, Wales 1 (aet) Seventh place play-off: Ireland 4, Poland 0 Fifth place play-off: Spain 1, France 0 Third place play-off: England 1, Soviet Union 1 (England won 2-1 on penalty strokes) Final: Germany 3, Netherlands 1. Veterans final: Spain 1, France 1 (Spain won 5-4 on penalty strokes)



**POLAND'S 284** and Norway's 266. **MOTOR RACING:** The Brazilian, Rubens Barrichello, aged 20, won the 20-lap, 50-mile eighth round of the British Formula Three championship at Donington Park to clinch the joint series lead with the Scot, David Coulthard, who completed one lap before retiring.

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## SPEEDWAY

**SWINDON:** HEAT team championships: **Thr.** top. **Poole** 30, **Swindon** 31, **Reading** 19, **Wolverhampton** 14. **Prize** money scores (after three legs): **Reading** 85, **Poole** 78, **Swindon** 57, **Wolverhampton** 50.

**WINTER-SHARES TROPHY.** **Cowesay** 47, **Wolverhampton** 43.

**SUNBURITE LEAGUE:** **First** division, **Kings Lynn** v **Breckford** postponed (track waterlogged); **Second** division, **Arrens Epsom** 47, **Edinburgh** 43, **Stoke** 42, **Widnes** 28, **Rye House** v **Exotic** postponed (track waterlogged).

**BRADFORD:** **World** championship first: 1. **Tyson** (Barwick), 12; 2. **S. Emswiler** (Wolverhampton), 12; after an 11-11 draw, **Craddock** (Barnsley) 12, **Widnes** 11.

**TABLE TENNIS**

**BRIDGLINGTON:** English under-18 and under 21 championships. Under-18: Girls: singles Semi-final: A Edon (Lancs) to G Taylor (Lincs) 21-7, 17-21, 21-6. G. Solder (Essex) to A Perry (Devon) 21-7, 21-6. Final: Solder to Edon 21-18, 21-13. Under-21: Semi-final: J Taylor (Lancs) to G Solder (Essex) 21-11, 18-21, 21-15. G Solder (Lancs) to M O'Donnell (York) 21-17 21-10. Final: Taylor to O'Donnell 18-21, 21-12, 21-19. Doubles final: T Cutler and N Charles (Middle) to J Holland (Derby) and S Gabor (Wilt).

**OTHER MATCHES:** Dublin; Ireland  
Scotland  
**MINOR COUNTIES CHAMPIONSHIP**  
Jesmond: Northumberland v Lincolnshire  
Prested Street: Oxfordshire v Buckinghamshire  
Ulster: Wales v Devon  
**BAIN CLARKSON SECOND XI CHAMPIONSHIP:** Chelmsford: Essex v Middlesex  
Swinscoe: Glamorgan v Gloucestershire  
Southampton

GOLF: English women's senior championship (Burnham and Berraw).  
MODERN PENTATHLON: World Cup (Millon Keynes).  
POLO: Warwickshire Cup (Cirencester, 3.0)  
Kirklington Tournament (Kirklington, 3.0)  
Ham Tournament (Ham)  
TENNIS: Wimbledon championships



Lack of Test match weather insurance at Lord's could prove expensive for the first-class counties

## Gooch still singing in the rain

By ALAN LEE, CRICKET CORRESPONDENT

THE England players will have shed no tears over the torrential rain at Lord's yesterday, which consigned the second Cornhill Test match to virtually certain stalemate. For the game's finances, however, the washout has serious implications.

The Test and County Cricket Board (TCCB) no longer has an insurance policy for days on which a lack of any play obliges them to refund spectators' money. Therefore, the cost to them of the bad weather yesterday could be as high as £400,000 in repayments, plus the administrative expense of the operation.

All available tickets were sold in advance for the first Sunday of Test cricket at Lord's since 1983. But the untimely rain not only wrecked a match of two centuries, high-class bowling and infinite twists and turns, it also cost the game around ten per cent of its budgeted income for the entire series.

This is a savage setback for the 17 first-class counties, many of whom remain viable only through their annual pay-out from the board's Test match pool. Each stands to lose about £20,000.

When play was abandoned at 4pm, Peter Smith, spokesman for the TCCB, explained: "The sharp rise in premiums persuaded us to drop our insurance, although we still have a calamity cover through which we can claim if a certain amount of days' Test cricket are lost to the weather. We fully expect most people who had tickets for today to claim a refund."

"One thing that has pleased us is that the sales for today prove we can stage Test cricket on a Sunday. But any bonus from that has gone with the bad weather."

The last time a full day of Test cricket was eliminated

was in 1987, again at Lord's, when the second, fourth and fifth days against Pakistan were lost. The weather forecast threatens another possibility of no play today, when the Queen is due to attend, although, as no tickets are sold in advance for the final day, losses will not be severe.

Graham Gooch's sympathy for the board will rightly be small compared to his relief that a match which, on Friday evening, seemed to have gone terminally wrong, has been saved. Indeed, even before the rain arrived, a draw was the likely outcome, thanks to Robin Smith's magnificent, unbeaten 148 on Saturday, which saved the follow-on and confined England's first-innings deficit to just 65.

Smith said he felt under no pressure to score runs because of the "brilliant" support innings played by Jack Russell, Derek Pringle and the tail-enders. Gooch, too, was keen to press the theme of a team performance yesterday, though he did confess to a retrospective rethink on the selection of the eleven.

His decision to omit Richard Illingworth and persist with an all-seam attack may not entirely have been his own but he is now prepared to shoulder any blame. "The captain has to weigh up the options and sometimes he will be wrong," he said. "As it has turned out, I think Richard would have done a good job."

There was support from Gooch for Devon Malcolm, whose place is at risk after another wayward spell on Thursday, although his insistence that "we will not give up on Devon" does not mean he will necessarily be in the side for Trent Bridge. A spell back with his county, bowling rather than resting, may be what Malcolm needs most.



Square cover: optimistic spectators, still hopeful of some play, shelter under umbrellas at Lord's yesterday

## Accolades and anti-climaxes at Lord's

JUST as it is splendid how often the Lord's Test match produces a very fine piece of batting, so it is depressing how seldom it gets the weather that one likes to associate with the time of year. On Saturday Robin Smith was awarded the rare honour of the members of MCC standing to him when he returned to the pavilion after making 148 not out; yesterday came the anti-climax of unrelenting rain.

This custom of the members rising at Lord's in recognition of an exceptional

innings is the cricketer's equivalent of the reception a golfer may be given when he comes to the last green at St Andrews after playing the round of his life. To most of us, it happens only in a dream.

I wrote about it for the first time in 1952, when Vinoo Mankad took on England almost single-handed. Next year came one of the most famous of all rearguard actions, the great partnership between Trevor Bailey and Willie Watson which denied Australia what had looked to

be certain victory when the last day's play began. All that last afternoon the whole nation seemed to hold its breath as these two stayed together.

Next morning the *Manchester Guardian*, as it then was, carried the headline above Neville Cardus's report on the front page. "A Miracle of Faith at Lord's". To both the heroes, when each was out, the members rose.

So they did to Everton Weekes in 1957, when he was caught by Evans off Bailey for 90 in a match which West Indies lost in three days. There was a ridge at the Nursery End of the Lord's pitch in those days, which made batting against the likes of Keith

Miller, Brian Statham, Fred Trueman, Peter Heine and Neil Adcock a truly hazardous business. For the only time on record, a secretary of MCC — it was Ronnie Aird at the time — sent a note to the visitors' dressing-room, written on the members' behalf, congratulating Weekes on his courage and skill.

Denis Compton, Bill Edrich, Freddie Brown, Martin Donnelly, Len Hutton, Bill Lawry, Ted Dexter, Hanif Mohammad, Colin Cowdrey, Greg Chappell, Gary Sobers and his cousin, David Holford (assistant manager of the present West Indian side), Kim Hughes, Mohsin Khan, Bev Congdon, Allan Border, Stephen Waugh — over the years one has seen them all given the ultimate accolade at

Lord's. But none, I think, was any more deserved than Smith's, particularly in view of his disappointing tour in Australia last winter.

It was a shock to arrive at the nets on the Sydney Cricket Ground in January and to find a buoyant Australian side occupying three of them, while in the three alongside them the England players were being very publicly "cramped". Robin Smith's instructor was his brother Christopher; someone else's was Ted Dexter. It was all acutely self-conscious. But to have the humility to work at the game as Smith does is all to his credit. If his innings was not as free from error as Gooch's unbeaten 154 at Headingley recently, it was still a marvellously good and

timely effort. Having seen England come back so well on Saturday, there was all the more reason for looking forward to yesterday. Instead, as happened at some time or other in no fewer than seven Lord's Test matches in the 1970s, there was no answer to the rain.

Even in 1976, one of the hottest and driest summers ever recorded, the Saturday at Lord's was completely washed out. That, too, was a West Indian year. Going right back, even, to the first Test match West Indies ever played, at Lord's in 1928, one finds that it finished, according to *Wisden*, in "cheerless weather". The message, it seems, is to come prepared for all seasons — Bovril, brolly and all.

## Agassi will be the centre of attention

By ANDREW LONGMORE, TENNIS CORRESPONDENT



STEFAN Edberg begins the defence of his Wimbledon title on centre court against Marc Rosset this afternoon, but, with all due respect to the No. 1 seed, most of the attention on the first day of the championships will be on Andre Agassi.

Agassi has not played at Wimbledon since 1987, has been practising for only a week on grass and arrived in England just three days before his match with Grant Connell, of Canada, who beat Ivan Lendl at Queen's Club last week. Agassi, aged 21, admits he does not know quite what to expect from Wimbledon and certainly Wimbledon does not know quite what to expect from the American, who has shunned the tournament for so long.

"There's going to be a lot of hype around the match and a lot of interest. I'm not quite sure how it will go," Connell said yesterday. "But if there is any surface I would like to play him on, this would be the one."

Agassi could be back in Las Vegas by the weekend, the time that the two favourites for the men's singles, Stefan Edberg and Boris Becker, finalists for the last three years, are turning their minds to winning the title. Becker, for one, has tried to play down the inevitability of a fourth final against his main rival.

"It's true we have the best chance, but to talk of it being definitely being a final between us once more is a bit premature. There are so many good players in the field," Becker said. The bookmakers disagree: Edberg is 13-8 to retain his title, Becker 7-4 to win his fourth.

The late withdrawal of Monica Seles from the women's singles will be the subject

of an enquiry by the Women's Tennis Association. The "minor accident" that was the only explanation for the top seed's sudden absence late last week has turned into a knee injury and, finally, into the shin splints that have been troubling the Yugoslav, aged 17, for several months. Seles could be fined up to \$6,000 for pulling out after the draw had been made.

Martin Jaité — who was due to play the US Open champion, Pete Sampras — Fabrice Santoro, of France, and Alex Antonitsch, of Austria, were other late withdrawals through injury yesterday. Mats Wilander, who like Ivan Lendl, needs the Wimbledon title to complete his grand slam collection, was also doubtful with a knee injury.

Also on court today are Jennifer Capriati, at the age of 15, Jimmy Connors, the two-time champion returning at the age of 38 to play his 99th singles match at Wimbledon, the new French Open champion, Jim Courier, and Ivan Lendl, who plays Kelly Evernden on court one. Steffi Graf, an even-money favourite for her third title, Gabriela Sabatini (11-4) and Martina Navratilova (4-1) begin tomorrow — weather permitting, of course.

Wimbledon draw, page 32  
Agassi's challenge, page 33

## Officials target resold tickets

By JOHN GOODBODY

THE All England Club today will make its most determined attempt yet to eliminate the unauthorised resale of Wimbledon tickets.

Officials will make spot checks on ticket-holders as they go through the gates to verify if individuals were originally allocated the seats. In principle, any ticket, other than a debenture ticket, which is sold by an unauthorised agent, will be invalid.

Corporate hospitality companies have been forced to concentrate on buying the 2,100 debenture tickets, which are much more expensive. Three years ago some were being sold for £35,000 each, with only three years of the issue to run. Last month, Mike

Burton (Sports Management) Ltd unsuccessfully challenged the new regulation in the High Court and had to undertake that the company would not deal in any Wimbledon tickets other than debentures.

Some ground restrictions, which last year cut the fortnight's attendance to 347,978, have been lifted by Merton council and more than 400,000 are again expected to attend. Heading the queue last night for the £16 centre court seats, on sale today, was Mrs Sue Joyce, an accountant from Hampshire, who had settled down under canvas at 9am. "Camping overnight with all the people here is just as much part of the fun as seeing the tennis," she said.

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## Gascoigne future is top priority

By DENNIS SIGNY

THE first task for Terry Venables this week, now that he has become group managing director of Tottenham Hotspur plc, will be to sort out the future of Paul Gascoigne.

The England midfielder player is due to return from holiday in Portugal this week and Venables has been unable to see him since the player was carried off in the FA Cup final against Nottingham Forest at Wembley last month because of the complications of his injury and the pressure of the takeover talks that finished at the weekend.

Despite an operation on a ruptured cruciate ligament that means that Gascoigne is unlikely to play again until next year, Lazio, the Italian club, had pursued their in-

terest in signing him at a fee of around £4.5 million.

Gascoigne, aged 24, is understood to have agreed personal terms with Lazio and to be willing to move abroad, but, the transfer fee has not been finalised.

Venables admitted yesterday that he was unsure how far negotiations had gone. Solomon described it as "an open issue" and said that with the takeover of Tottenham by Venables and Alan Sugar, the chairman of Amstrad, a new situation had been established.

"I don't think it should be ruled out that he might stay," Nat Solomon, the outgoing chairman of Tottenham Hotspur plc, said.

## Rider faces drugs ban

JERRY Cooman, the Belgian winner of the last two stages of the Milk Race, was yesterday disqualified from the cycling event after proving positive in drugs tests on both days (Peter Bryan writes).

He faces a six-month suspension and a fine of SwFr8,000. The British Cycling Federation said last night that Cooman, who rides for the Sefsoft squad, had challenged the result of the first tests, but that a second test had confirmed the original findings.

Traces of the drug Dihydrocodeine, a proscribed substance that is normally used as a pain-killer, had been found in his samples.

Cooman, recognised as one of the fastest sprint finishers in Europe, was never in contention for overall victory and finished 73rd of the 83 riders to complete the 1,150-mile course.

Chris Walker, of the Bana-Falcon team, the overall racing winner who was run-up on both occasions, was awarded the stages.

## Herbert Mazda home and dry



Coasting in the Mazda of Weidler, Herbert and Gachot takes the lead in dramatic fashion at Le Mans

From STEPHEN SLATER AT LE MANS

THE Le Mans 24-hour race took a dramatic twist when, with three hours remaining, the domination of the race by Mercedes-Benz crumbled to allow a surprise win by Mazda.

After covering 4,023 kilometres in 362 laps of the Sarthe circuit, the British driver Johnnie Herbert, and his team colleagues, Bertrand Gachot, and Walker Weidler were mobbed by the crowd as the rotary engine Mazda scored the first Le Mans victory by a Japanese manufacturer. Suffering from exhaustion and dehydration after the race, Herbert was forced to miss the traditional post-race victory celebrations.

Herbert said: "The actual driving at Le Mans isn't so tough, but the tiredness and exhaustion gets to you. When I stopped racing I just felt completely drained."

The Jaguar team finished in second, third and fourth positions. The JXR-12 of Jones Boesel and Michel Ferte was second, while Teo Fabi, Achesson and Wollek were third to give Fabi and the Jaguar team

the world championship lead. "Although for this race we used the V-12 car which is older and slower than the new JXR-14, it is very reliable," Fabi said.

Derek Warwick spun into a gravel trap when the engine momentarily cut out and was forced to make trackside repairs during the night to the fuel pump when the engine

stopped completely. Despite these problems, Warwick and team-colleagues Wallace and Neilsen continued to take fourth place. From the start, the turbo-charged Mercedes-Benz V8s outpaced the opposition. By the end of the third hour, the "Silver Arrows" were running one-two-three at the head of the field and they maintained a comfortable advantage despite losing their second car, driven by Jonathan Palmer.

Mercedes had looked set for a crushing victory. The No. 1 car, driven by Jean-Louis Schlesser, Jochen Mass and Alain Ferte, led for 16 hours but just before 1pm Ferte coasted into the pits.

## RESULTS FROM LE MANS

1. V Weidler (Ger), J Herbert (GB), B Gachot (Bel), Mazda, 362 laps completed (av speed 128.33mph); 2. D Jones (USA), R Boesel (Ger), M Ferte (Fr), Jaguar, at 2 laps; 3. S Wollek (Fr), A Achesson (Fr), T Fabi (It), Jaguar, at 4; 4. D Warwick (GB), A Wallace (GB), J Neilsen (Can), Jaguar, at 5; 5. K Wendlinger (Austria), F Krumpholtz (Ger), M Schumacher (Ger), Mercedes, at 7; 6. D Kennedy (Ire), S Johansson (Swe), M Sarrico Sala (Sp), Mazda, at 7; 7. H Struck (Ger), D Bell (GB), F Jelinski (Ger), Porsche, at 15; 8. P Dierdorff (Bel), T Yorino (Japan), Y Terada (Japan), Mazda, at 16; 9. M Roulier (Ger), A Tokoven (Fin), J J Lehto (Fin), Porsche, at 19; 10. O Larrauri (Arg), J Parera (Sp), W Brun (Swit), Porsche, at 24.

World drivers' championship: 1. Fabi, 47pts; equal 2. J Mass (Ger) and J-L Schlesser (Fr), 37; 4. Warwick, 30; equal 5. P Allot (Fr) and M Bado (It), 29; 7. C Euser (Neth), 28; equal 8. Tokoven and Schumacher, 23.

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